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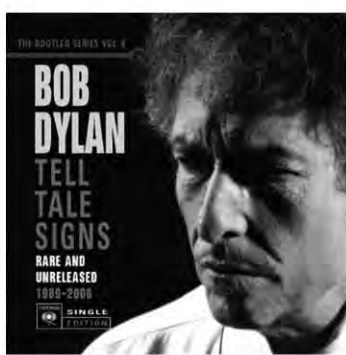
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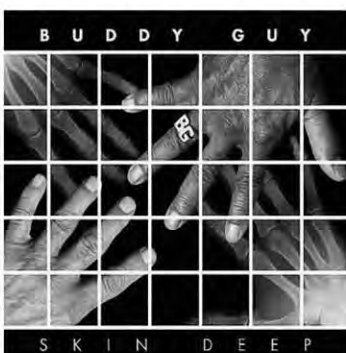
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opinion:

4 Letters

9 Slant

news:

8 Briefs and Stories

special feature:

12 Procrastinators Gift Guide

cover story:

12 Winter Reading

arts & entertainment:

19 Calendar

30 Music

27 Galleries

34 Nightlife

28 Movies

36 Theater

etc:

37 Classifieds

42 Personals

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Salad Bar of Rights

We don't get to pick and choose

Rick Levin's cover story commentary, "Bang Bang, Shoot Shoot" (12/4), perpetuates a common flaw in anti-gun rhetoric that somehow the Second Amendment is about hunting rights. The

Second Amendment and the Oregon Constitution do not say that there is a "right to keep and bear sporting goods." The primary purpose of these constitutional provisions is to protect citizens from tyranny — not to preserve a right to shoot deer.

Levin neglects to even point out that the Oregon Constitution affords its citizens broader protections than the Second Amendment and specifically covers self-defense.

Levin is also quick to point out that there are more than 30,000 people shot to death each year in this country. He neglects to point out how many of those deaths were in self defense or by criminals against an unarmed victim. Additionally, this statistic does not take into account how many crimes are deterred and deaths prevented by citizens with a firearms.

Furthermore, Levin fails to point out that in the last 100 years, governments have murdered millions more people than were killed by common criminals. More importantly, those government-sponsored murders were preceded by gun control laws making the citizenry easier to control and kill when they were unable to resist.

It is amazing how quickly we forget the gun control laws of the Soviet Union, Nationalist China, Nazi Germany, Communist China and the Khmer Rouge that preceded their killing of more than 60 million people. And that still leaves us to ponder the gun control legislation that preceded the death of the one million Armenians at the hands of Ottoman Turkey, or the indigenous peoples and other political enemies killed at the hands of Guatemala or genocide at the hands of government in Rwanda and Uganda. Our Founding Fathers knew the threat of a government to its people, hence the Second Amendment. History has unfortunately reaffirmed this lesson again and again.

We do not get to pick and choose which constitutionally guaranteed rights we will support like we are at a salad bar of rights. It is disingenuous to complain about the neo-cons stepping on our civil liberties (First, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Amendments) — by their dispersing lawful assemblies, illegal wiretaps, deprivation of the right to counsel, torture, etc. — but completely ignore what the Framers found so important of a right that they listed it #2. We should protect all of our civil rights, including the right to keep and bear arms.

Of course, kudos to Levin for visiting the Baron's Den for target practice. However, that one experience does not adequately hide his contempt for firearms and those that use them. His contempt was obvious in demeaningly comparing gun range patrons to the "Wild Bunch after a spume of unregenerate violence" and to "children sparking cherry bombs."

Truth be told, gun ownership isn't all about having hee-hawing good redneck fun. Actually, most firearm owners see target practice as a necessary responsibility. Anecdotes about isolated experiences at the gun range only work to perpetuate a stereotype and do nothing to further the journalistic standards that we expect out of the *EW*.

C. Michael Arnold is a trial lawyer, farmer and lifelong Democrat. He can be contacted at mike@arnoldlawfirm.com



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THANKS, BONNY

For the past five years I have been spending at least half of my waking hours as a part of efforts to create what I believe to be positive change in the world. Sadly, over the years, my trust in the position of the "elected official" at almost every level of government has steadily eroded. I now realize it would be delusional for me to keep pretending that most elected officials value or even consider input from ordinary members of the public. I have come to see the futility of expecting any but a few politicians to actually listen to what members of the public have to say.

But a few shining lights in the gloom have kept me personally from giving up on grassroots advocacy as a way to encourage elected officials to create change. One of these lights has been Councilor Bonny Bettman. Not only has Bettman been a stalwart defender of human rights and environmental justice, but she's been proactive by going on the offense to push forward positive change rather than just fighting off the next bad proposal.

I'm sure I'm speaking for many others in this city when I say: Thanks, Councilor Bettman, for having the heart to honestly listen to what people have to say, for having the guts to speak out against what's wrong, for having the backbone to stand up for what's right and for having the vision to move forward what is necessary.

Josh Schlossberg
Eugene

GO FIRE YOURSELVES

Words are nearly inadequate for my feelings at this moment. LTD, my local public transit company, is proposing to eliminate the Breeze, my transportation to UO, LCC (at least part way) and other parts downtown. To be replaced by what? Some overcrowded (undoubtedly), derelict (most likely) tin can that comes every half hour (vs. the current 15 minutes) during the periods when I need it most. Thanks for nothing, LTD! Meanwhile, the "green elephant," aka the EMX, has zero changes. LTD, why not just do what you'd

really like to do and drop everything but EMX service? Fuel prices are collapsing, and you're cutting service. Makes one think maybe you want everyone to go back to using cars. Well, fine, I may just do that, once my school ends in June (or sooner if my lowly expectations for your "replacement" service are realized). You've just lost yourself a faithful customer for life if you implement this "plan," if you can call it that. Not that I think you really care, because if you did, I wouldn't be writing this. Too bad you don't have the cajones to do what is really needed to save money, and that is fire yourselves (management) and bring in people who have the citizens' interests at heart.

Jeff Innis
Eugene

HEAT PUMP THOUGHTS

In response to Shannon Wilson ("Bottomless Pockets," letters, 11/26), EWEB wanted very much to install a ground source (earth coupled) heat pump at its new Roosevelt Operation Center currently under construction in west Eugene. This system was studied in detail before the decision was made to install a high efficiency gas-fired condensing boiler. Analysis showed the ground source heat pump system would cost at least \$500,000 more than the condensing boiler. As important, there were also concerns about long-term viability of the local aquifer that raised additional cost and operating questions given the significant volumes of circulation water the heat pump system would require.

The condensing boiler system will provide heating and cooling for the new facility, is expected to operate with an efficiency level between 94 and 98 percent and is an important part of EWEB's overall goal of developing a highly sustainable and energy efficient facility while staying within a firm budget established by the EWEB Board and community. To that end, the Roosevelt project is on track to achieve a Gold certification from the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program.

With respect to carbon impact, EWEB's

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

carbon footprint is among the lowest for any electric utility in the country. The CO2 output from EWEB buildings is a small fraction (less than 1 percent) of that footprint, and installation of this new boiler won't change that fact.

Ken Beeson
Project Manager
EWEB Roosevelt Project

FOR GOODNESS' SAKE

Kudos to Alex Young and peers at the Sheldon High School (letters,12/11). They get it — doing good for goodness' sake provides happiness to both giver and recipient. They're putting into practice the empathy of an evolved species. I hope more clubs like the "Acts of Kindness Club" spring up in high schools all over the country. It might be that those who call security on you are the same ones who could never conceive of do-gooding without expecting something back, be that remuneration or salvation. Pity them.

Aaron Rosenberg
Eugene

MIFFED READER

Reading your feature commentary ("Bang Bang Shoot Shoot," 12/4) left me with one burning question. How much time was spent researching this piece? As an Obama voting, latte-loving, new gun owner I must say: "It's the economy, stupid!" Times of economic woe leave individuals, myself included, concerned with increasing crime and civil disorder. Papers across the nation have been reporting on this phenomena since far before the election. Yet your fine reporter chose not to touch on this issue in favor of belittling and stereotyping gun-owners as illiterate Billy Bobs and Ellie Maes. Worse still was the implication that gun owners are racist, sprinkled throughout this article with about as much cogent articulation as Palin's foreign policy experience. Pejorative articles such as "Bang Bang, Shoot Shoot" work to divide us and spread hatred. They are truly ulterior to Obama's message of unity and moderation. I'm highly disappointed.

Emily Millar
Eugene

NOT MAGIC WANDS

I was pleased by the article on Obama the NRA and the strange fears created by his election. Even though I myself am the proud owner of a handgun and rifles and a supporter of the right to own and carry guns, I have never really agreed with the NRA and its rhetoric. During the election I read some of their anti-Obama pamphlets and was amazed at how ridiculously overblown the fear of Obama was. It was propaganda to prey on the ignorant. I am very concerned by the amount of fear that the election of Barack Obama has created, especially the number of people who have told me that his election is a sign of the end of days. Religious hysteria and ignorance scare me more than guns ever will.

When I purchased my handgun a couple of years ago, I was amazed and a little shocked at how easy it was. I went to a local gun shop, and in about an hour and about five hundred dollars later I had purchased a Glock 17. There was no waiting period, only a few forms and a quick phone call background check. I had a new responsibility, I had not purchased a new toy, I had brought home a very efficient and well designed tool for killing people, that, incidentally, was very fun to practice with. I

hope to god I never have to use it to defend myself, but I wanted to have the option to be able to in an extreme circumstance. I didn't buy my gun because I was afraid, and I did not buy it because I thought it would make me feel more powerful. I believe that gun ownership is an extreme responsibility that has been taken for granted by the NRA, who fear any form of restriction threatens the right to bear arms. Handguns are not magic wands we can wave to make problems and people go away, and they are not toys. We need responsible and well planned gun registration and licensing laws regarding their ownership. And we do not need to defend the right to keep and bear arms on a platform of fear and ignorance.

Daniel Ehrich
Eugene

CHRIST PREACHED PEACE

When politics and religion are combined into one irrational whole, we get a frenzied orgy of idiocy and recklessness as the Bushies and the bin Ladens have so strikingly proved. The bad news is that U.S. society is screwed up every which way, and the good news is that we are capable of evolving toward being less nasty and less brainwashed and smarter.

The U.S. is mostly a Christian nation, and Christ preached peace, and the U.S. is the world's most warmongering nation; therefore, U.S. Christianity is a total and complete failure or a total and complete hypocrisy or has been completely subverted by warmongering U.S. CEO grossness. Wars are caused by greed, nationalism, dictators, overpopulation and religion, all of which are mostly an obsolete crock of shit.

Bob Saxton
Eugene

TONE DEAF

I take issue with a great deal of Rick Levin's recent commentary "Bang Bang Shoot Shoot." Aside from many of his conclusions, it is primarily the tone that is exasperating. As the editor of the Northwest's only independent gun magazine, *American Gun Culture Report*, I have discovered gun owners can hardly be so easily dismissed as uneducated rednecks who can only comprehend NRA-style black and white platitudes.

Sadly, the NRA has become the primary facade of the gun rights movement, but American gun owners are a vast enough group that such a collection of regressive minded conservatives is hardly representative. While Levin apparently took little effort to contact them, there are countless national groups such as the Pink Pistols, Home Alive and Jews for the Preservation of Firearm Ownership, to list just a few, who advocate for self-defense issues on behalf of historically vulnerable groups such as homosexuals, women and Jews. My own magazine has published articles by anarchists, libertarians, socialists, queers, hippies and punks.

I am an Obama voter who bought my first gun from a deep sense of social responsibility and can intellectually defend my decision. There is much work to be done combating the tragic stereotypes unfairly perpetuated in Levin's article. Thankfully the diversity of American gun owners ensures I won't be alone.

Ross Eliot
Portland

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FULL REDESIGN NEEDED

On Dec. 8, Josefina Hajek presented the City of Eugene with a check for \$160 for safety improvements to Bailey Hill Road, where a tragic crash claimed her young brother's life in August 2006. She worked hard to raise this money as a way of making some good changes come out of her terrible loss.

I was honored to accept that contribution, because I share the Hajek family's desire to make Bailey Hill Road safer and because I know that the city is working diligently to make those improvements this coming summer.

We have been working with the community for 18 months to make these improvements a reality. I can tell you that the solution isn't as simple as painting a couple of lines on the road or putting up a blinking light or a couple of signs that would encourage children to enter a busy, four-lane street with a false sense of security. What's needed is a full redesign of this stretch of road, and that's what is going to happen this summer.

Thank you to the voters of Eugene for passing the bond measure to fix streets, including Bailey Hill Road. Thank you to the Oregon Department of Transportation for approving a \$359,000 grant to make pedestrian improvements on Bailey Hill Road. Thank you city employees who worked so hard with the Hajek family and

concerned community members on making Bailey Hill Road safer.

And most especially, thank you to Josefina and her friends for their efforts to bring good changes to our community. We are proud of you.

*Mayor Kitty Piercy
Eugene*

ANTI-GUN NUTS

I am most disappointed in your anti-gun editorial ("Bang Bang Shoot Shoot") of 12/4. "Hysteria" more accurately portrays the tone of this piece, than the worry that gun owners have about their rights to own firearms being limited. Are you really surprised that so many gun stores refused to talk to you? Confiscation legislation has already been introduced in the Congress this year (HR 6257). While it would not confiscate certain firearms from their existing owners, it would make these guns nontransferable and ban all new sales. All covered guns would be illegal for anyone to possess after the current owner's death. That's still government confiscation of legally owned private property.

Levin's characterization of a homeowner shooting a burglar inside his house who was in the act of committing multiple felonies as being a "vigilante" is most perverse logic indeed. That man was in no way looking for trouble. He was merely protecting his home and family. And the fact is that this incident would be no crime at all in Oregon, as possessing handguns

inside one's home is legal here, unlike that Chicago suburb.

The most ironic thing was your cover photo. Do you not know that it is illegal to point an unloaded firearm at another person in Eugene (Ordinance 4.886)? Our justice system needs to make an example out of the individual holding the revolver in this photo for violating a common sense gun safety law. Please turn that person in to the Eugene Police Department immediately.

*Lance Jacobs
Springfield*

CRISIS IN GAZA

I remember as a young girl asking my mom how people could have let the Holocaust happen. "We didn't know it was happening" was her reply. Something about that answer made me uncomfortable, preferring to be informed and ready to speak out.

Recently I've been wondering if my children would some day ask me the same about the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. "Why did no one come to the aid of 1.5 million people imprisoned, hungry and many of them sick?" they might ask. "Where was the public outrage?"

1.5 million Gazans are imprisoned in a concentration camp, literally being starved to death, while the world stands by watching. And 60 percent of them are children. What is being done to the Gazan people is a war crime

and a crime against humanity as defined by international law.

Of course there are other large-scale human disasters happening at the same time as the crisis in Gaza. But no other government is given \$7-\$10 million/day like Israel's is. Without U.S. funding, Israel could not afford its brutal occupation, the illegal settlements and the collective punishment and imprisonment of the people of Gaza.

So whose responsibility is it to speak up first and loudest? Isn't it us, who are allowing it to happen, day by day, with our tax dollars?

*Valori George
Corvallis*

HOMEGROWN BAILOUT

Over the summer, I went into Safeway and purchased some things. The clerk asked me if I would like to round up to the next dollar and donate my change to prostate cancer research. What a wonderful idea! This got me to thinking, what if all the local merchants ask their customers to donate their change to helping their fellow Eugeneans out of foreclosure? The merchants can give those donations to our local banks, which in turn would go to those whose mortgages are in trouble. I have noticed through these tough times that people are starting to band together; it would be great to see more of that.

*Dana Stephens
Eugene*



DESIGNMATTERS

BY JERRY DIETHELM



Ripeness Is All

Keys to overcoming inertia

Things change when the time is ripe, when people, communities, nations, systems, places are ready to transform. Situations, like fruit, always need to ripen. Consummation is an overflowing cup – as in love.

They say design changes existing situations into preferred ones, but that tends to ignore the powerful inertia that must be overcome for all but the smallest changes. The foot-dragging force that suffocates desirable change takes many familiar forms. "There are rules, you know, customs, traditions," as in the unfortunate plastering of road signs on the new I-5 bike bridge.

How about this one? "We just can't afford it. Signature beauty is far too subjective a matter for us engineers." You'll no doubt recognize ODOT's recent snookering of Eugene's desire for a landmark bridge by hiding their agency's practices and real priorities behind a budget that is much more fungible than they'll admit. Cable-stayed bridges? In your dreams! "Oh, all right. We'll sign up a small one."

It takes two key forces to overturn such inertia: an adequate dissatisfaction with the present condition and the political support for a more compelling possibility that is attractive enough to overcome the fear of change.

Take national health care, for example. Almost so ripe you can smell it. Almost everyone is dissatisfied. Millions don't have it. Businesses can't afford it. The system is wasteful and broken. All that is needed now is a compelling idea.

Here, let me design it for you: I'll call it American Medical Insurance. AMI also derives from the romance language words for friend, ami (French), amici (Italian) amigo (Spanish) and the Latin, amare, to love. The point is that friends help you to take care of yourself in your everyday life and in your time of need. For everyone over 65, AMI is called Medicare.

Here's how it should work: Private insurance moves to a supplementary role as in Medicare, and you can supplement it to your heart's content. What they won't be able to do anymore is exclude people from primary care because they can't make any money from the transaction.

Will ODOT reform itself and build new bridges to the community? (Will the Eugene Police Employees Association?) Neither appears dissatisfied in the least,

and we're far too distracted with potholes, Tasers and the perverse need to turn teenagers protesting pesticides into felons.

Do we have a better answer to the bike bridge sign problem?

Easy, change the too-rigid rules to allow information signs in the median before the bridge and put an exit sign in a timely location off to the right. But changing ODOT and federal highway imperatives is harder than making rivers flow backwards. Moses and a lot of other very persuasive people would have to care a lot to turn this one around.

Same with the I-5 bridge design. There is some spotty and sporadic grumbling but still an inadequate dissatisfaction to overcome ODOT's stubborn resistance to the public's preferred design, which was already a comedown from what was needed to make the crossing sing. Maybe the new New Deal can bring back the ideal of public works as something special, things designed to reach beyond themselves and contribute to the rebuilding of our national pride and spirit.

Do I consider downtown ripe? There is certainly adequate and abundant dissatisfaction, but the compelling community vision, that which would tip us in a new direction, is still missing. In spite of some very prominent and patriotic attempts to sell the community on one more multi-million dollar shopping adventure investment downtown, the voters just couldn't buy it or believe in it anymore. And were we lucky; fears about the financial viability of the "big bang" for West Broadway have proved all too real. The city would have bought a lot of property at a premium and then been left holding the bag. Whew!

The problem with an economic turndown is that everyone hunkers down, and dissatisfactions are put on hold. There is a tendency to close up shop on the Department of Urban Visions and be satisfied with making do. Is there a planning and design equivalent to buying when the market is super low and selling high?

Not many know that the basic planning for the San Antonio River Walk, a billion dollar producing Millrace-like environment, was actually done during the Great Depression. When times were slow, that community had the wits to plan their city for better times to come.

Today we better understand the basic ingredients. Overcoming inertia and producing ripeness require tending to both of the forces that produce change. One half of those forces, like half a wit, won't get it done.

Jerry Diethelm is a Eugene architect and landscape architect and urban design consultant.

KEEP DOGS IN CABS

Saturday (12/6) I saw a shocking and disturbing accident involving a lovely old golden retriever. His careless owner had left the tailgate of his pickup down, and his dog was sitting right on the edge. We were next to him at a stop and before I could jump out to warn the driver he took off and sure enough his dog fell out of the truck. It gets worse so don't read on if you're squeamish ... The poor thing was on a long chain and was dragged for several yards. It happened right in front of the emergency animal hospital, so he was cared for immediately. I don't know if he lived; the vet can't tell me anything. Just please, if you don't want your dog in the cab of your truck, leave him home.

Tina Ellison
Springfield

END OF THE ROAD

Are you being denied by Lane County the maintenance of your community's roads? Is it based on law or its disregard by Lane County? Our community discovered that the End County Maintenance sign had been moved without notice from the end of our 1.25 mile dead end road to its beginning.

Lane County replaced the old road with a new one in 2006, stating this would reduce maintenance and liability. In spite of the community's desires and warnings, the \$3,000,000 road was constructed, and the dire predictions came true. So, Lane County attempted to dump the maintenance and liability onto the community. They emailed that our road "was, and will continue to be a Local Access Road (LAR). All LAR's throughout Lane County (over 50 miles) are not maintained by the county, and continue to be the responsibility of the residents who utilize the roads. ... The best you could hope for is your community would form a Local Improvement District (LID) to help maintain the road over its lifetime."

In 1934, Lane County created Bernhardt Heights County Road #1112 and has maintained it since. It took five minutes with Lane county code 15.010(35) to find a County Road is not an LAR returning maintenance and liability to Lane County. We prevailed, and the ECM sign has been returned. You may find the answers in the law available via the Internet in defending your family and community from the multitude of Lane County's abuses. We fortunately prevailed quickly without resorting to the class action lawsuit being prepared. Maybe your road is a similar cause!

Keith Stanton
Florence

TO THE DEMS

I am writing to tell you why I am endorsing Laura Gillpatrick and Matt Keating for chair and vice-chair of the Democratic Party of Lane County.

I support Laura Gillpatrick because she has been with the organization for several years and she's familiar with how the DPLC works. I have seen her build committees from the ground up, initiate new programs and build relationships that result in positive growth for the party.

Laura brings with her experience and continuity of the past two administrations, and she knows the priorities of the DPLC. She has a clear vision of what our party can be and has the ability to build the infrastructure the party



needs on day one.

I have worked with Matt Keating on the Eugene for Obama steering committee and helped mentor him as an Obama Organizing Fellow and 4th Congressional District Delegate to the 2008 DNC.

Matt's volunteer recruitment and voter registration skills are very good. His promotional, people and organizational skills are even better. I have seen Matt regularly reach out to local businesses to benefit our volunteer teams. He is bridging the gap between grassroots groups and growing businesses.

Above all, Laura and Matt are good listeners who welcome everyone into our fold. The DPLC is strongest when we're open to all and give everyone a voice and vested interest in our success. Laura Gillpatrick and Matt Keating understand this. They have my full support for the office of DPLC chair and vice-chair.

John Cuff
Eugene

STILL HACKABLE

Dan Robinson's Nov. 26 letter missed that the 2004 presidential election was stolen, especially through electronic ballot tampering. All or nearly all of the electronic voting machine companies, such as Elections Systems and Software and Diebold, are controlled by, thus programmed by, the extreme right wing. Vote totals could have been changed in the machines themselves, in the tabulators, in the wires from the machines to the tabulators, remotely from a laptop and from mobile equipment generating a stronger signal than the intended receiving tower.

Oregon's e-voting at least keeps the paper ballots for any recount. For the last election, I helped transport ballots for storage. These seem vulnerable; the ones I worked with are simply stored in a warehouse. More pertinent is the impossibility of securing e-voting. The only solution is hand-counted paper ballots.

Please read *Black Box Voting* by Bev Harris and *What Happened in Ohio*, coauthored by Harvey Wasserman. There is also *What Went Wrong in Ohio*, by the House Judiciary Committee's John Conyers, as well as *Federal Efforts to Improve Security and Reliability of Electronic Voting are Underway; but Key Activities Need to be Completed*, by the Government Accountability Office. The Democratic victory may have been much larger than we know of.

Kevin Russell
Eugene

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MADISON MEADOW SAVED

Madison Meadow is more than big enough for a good game of tag, and has just enough trees for some good climbing. This grassy meadow, an unassuming two-acre remnant orchard tucked into the Friendly Area Neighborhood, is the last natural open space in that area, but five years ago it was for sale and at risk of being developed.

Now neighborhood residents no longer need to worry about the future of the meadow. On Oct. 30, after five years of hard work, the Madison Meadow nonprofit group raised the last dollar towards purchase of the meadow.

"We're so happy to have this green space saved for the future for everyone," said Susan Jerde, a longtime area resident and early organizer of the Madison Meadow group. "We're so grateful for every single donation," she said.

Within a few months of forming, said Jerde, the informal group had become a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation with plans to purchase the meadow. It had also launched an outreach effort with lawn signs, T-shirts, articles in local newspapers, a table at the Mt. Pisgah Wildflower Festival and donation jars at local markets.

"This was a totally grassroots effort," said Jerde. "It started out with about 30 neighbors one rainy night meeting in someone's living room."

Large and small donations soon began to come in. Over the course of five years, the Oregon Community Foundation made several donations, and the Madison Meadow group received many small donations from people all over the city, Jerde said. The group also received a \$100,000 donation from an anonymous source, she said.

In a year, the group had raised \$220,000 for a down payment on the property and was given three years to raise the remaining \$250,000.

"So many people came together, realizing the value of these two acres of green. The city does need to get denser, but as that happens, we need to hang on to these green spaces. They become so much more precious," Jerde said.

The Madison Meadow group emphasizes the importance of knowing when not to build and refers to the greening of neighborhoods as "the new smart growth."

"The meadow is a place where there's a chance to see a snake or a dragonfly," said Jerde. "Ball fields and school parks are great, but those are not places where you might catch a little glimpse of wildlife," she said.

Now that the neighborhood group is the final steward of the meadow, it plans to continue enhancement projects it started several years ago. Jerde said the group plans to enhance biodiversity and native plants but doesn't have any plans to make the meadow an off-limits reserve. She added that group wants to preserve the meadow's rural feeling. "Rather than planting fussy garden plants, we want to help people feel like they've stepped back in time," she said.

The group's plans for the meadow include planting native prairie grasses as well as some heritage trees: several white oaks and a big leaf maple. Last spring, the group planted a butterfly garden as part of a project to help draw more monarch butterflies to the Willamette Valley. It has also been working with local schools to plant milkweed and native grasses, and plans to continue working with schoolchildren to reintroduce the camas flower.

Jerde said that because there is so much volunteer interest in enhancing the meadow, the Madison Meadow board will be doubling in size. She added that the board plans to consult with other neighborhood groups who want to preserve open space.

For now, Jerde encouraged anyone who's interested to walk through the meadow. "It's just a couple minutes of mental peace, to see all that green and all those trees," she said. — Jessica Hirst



THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

2008 YEAR IN REVIEW

A WHOLLY SUBJECTIVE AND THOROUGHLY INCOMPLETE LOOK BACK AT THE YEAR THAT WAS

PART ONE: GOODBYE TO ALL THAT

JAN. 4: JOHN MCCAIN SUGGESTS MASSIVELY UNPOPULAR IRAQ WAR COULD BE PROLONGED BY "100 YEARS."

HEN HEN! DO I KNOW HOW TO WIN AN ELECTION OR WHAT?

JAN. 7: BILL "WRONG ABOUT EVERYTHING" KRISTOL BEGINS NEW COLUMN IN N.Y. TIMES WITH A MISATTRIBUTED QUOTE.

I HOPE THIS DOES NOT IMPACT MY HARD-WON CREDIBILITY!

JAN. 10: BUSH AIDES PREDICT THE PRESIDENT WILL LEAVE OFFICE WITH A 45% APPROVAL RATING.

ALSO THERE WILL BE UNICORNS, AND MAGIC RAINBOWS.

JAN. 11: WASH. POST REPORTS TELECOMS REPEATEDLY CUT OFF WIRETAPS DUE TO FBI'S FAILURE TO PAY BILLS ON TIME.

IGNORE THE CONSTITUTION -- BUT DON'T IGNORE OUR "LATE PAYMENT" NOTICES!

JAN. 18: SEAN HANNITY DECLARES "THE ECONOMY IS PHENOMENAL!"

IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME, JUST ASK MY ACCOUNTANT!

FEB. 4: KARL ROYE JOINS FOX NEWS.

SERIOUSLY, WHAT CAN WE ADD TO THAT?

FEB. 28: EASILY-ALARMED FALAFEL ENTHUSIAST BILL O'REILLY WARNS OF--

"--THE SIMILARITIES BETWEEN WHAT HITLER...DID BACK THEN AND THE HATE-FILLED BLOGS, WHAT THEY'RE DOING NOW!"

FEB. 28: GEORGE BUSH IS SURPRISED TO LEARN THAT GAS MAY SOON HIT \$4 A GALLON.

"THAT'S INTERESTING! I HADN'T HEARD THAT!"

FEB. 28: SAME PRESS CONFERENCE: BUSH DODGES QUESTION ABOUT DONATIONS TO HIS LIBRARY, STATING--

"I...HAVE BEEN FOCUSED ELSEWHERE--LIKE ON GASOLINE PRICES!"

MARCH 1: BILL "WRONG ABOUT EVERYTHING" KRISTOL PREDICTS--

"IT'S GOING TO BE A NATIONAL SECURITY ELECTION!"

MARCH 18: JOHN MCCAIN--A MAN RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT--REPEATEDLY CONFUSES SUNNIS AND SHIITES.

ALL I KNOW IS, THEY BOTH BETTER STAY OFF MY LAWN!

APRIL 14: ASKED IF OBAMA IS A MARXIST, JOE LIEBERMAN REPLIES--

"I MUST SAY, THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION!"

APRIL 24: RUSH LIMBAUGH FANTASIZES ABOUT VIOLENCE AT THE D.N.C.

"I AM DREAMING OF RIOTS!"

HIS DREAMS ARE NOT DESTINED TO BE REALIZED.

MAY 8: HILLARY CLINTON EXPLAINS THAT SHE IS MORE POPULAR THAN OBAMA AMONG "WORKING, HARDWORKING AMERICANS, WHITE AMERICANS."

HEN HEN--DID I SAY THAT OUT LOUD?

JUNE 29: BILL "WRONG ABOUT EVERYTHING" KRISTOL ENTHUSIASTICALLY PROMOTES SARAH PALIN FOR REPUBLICAN V.P.

TRUST ME--SHE'S THE PERFECT CHOICE!

...TO BE CONTINUED!

news Briefs

SNOW JOBS GET SPENDY

With dangerous snow and ice lingering for days on major city streets, should the city of Eugene be doing more to remove it?

"To be able to go out and get every street clear of ice and snow immediately, Eugene would have to make such an investment that it probably wouldn't be justified," said Eugene Public Works spokesman Eric Jones.

Snow removal is expensive. Chicago spends half a million dollars for a two-inch storm, according to press reports. Toronto, Canada, has a snow removal budget of more than \$60 million a year. Windsor, Canada, a city a little larger than Eugene, has a fleet of 21 plows and trucks

clearing streets at a cost of more than \$12,000 an hour.

Jones said Eugene had eight trucks with attached plows or sanding boxes running around the clock for this snow storm since 3 am Monday, Dec. 15. The trucks had spread 400 cubic yards of sand by Tuesday morning.

"Every street that's a priority route has received some treatment," Jones said. Eugene has about 600 miles of snow routes.

The city gives top priority to its highest traffic streets and streets with major bus routes. A city map shows that 6th and 7th through town, Coburg Road and Chambers Street are first priority. Willamette Street, much of which had little hint of sand or plowing on Monday after the snow, is a second priority.

ODOT plows the I-5 and other freeways. Lane County does 30th Avenue and Delta Highway.

Like many cities, Eugene has an ordinance requiring businesses and citizens to shovel the sidewalk in front of their property. The city does sidewalks around public property, but not bike paths. "They are



Lane Area Herbicide Spray Schedule

• Lane County Vegetation Management Advisory Committee has three openings. Deadline to apply is 5pm Monday, Dec. 19. Contact Orin Shumacher, Integrated Vegetation Management coordinator at 682-6908. See www.co.lane.or.us/BCC/vacancies.htm

Compiled by Jan Wroncy, Forestland Dwellers: 342-8332, forestlanddwellers.org

not a priority,” Jones said, noting cyclists may find the bus an attractive option when there is ice.

Like many cities, Eugene has reduced its use of salt to protect the environment and save money. Eugene uses magnesium chloride and calcium magnesium acetate as less damaging salt alternatives, according to Jones. After the melt, Eugene tries to sweep up sand to keep it out of storm drains.

Jones said snow storms are relatively rare in Eugene, so the city doesn’t have a set snow removal budget. As for the cost of the snow and ice this year, Jones said, “We won’t know for several days.”

The city of Toronto estimates that its \$60 million snow removal budget saves twice that much in lost productivity from a single snowed-in day.

Not removing snow also has costs for Eugene. The city reported twice the usual number of accidents on Monday after the snow.

But while Eugene may average six usually quickly melting inches of snow a year, frozen Toronto averages 52 inches.

—Alan Pittman

OLD WALNUT STILL STANDS

The arborists at the Eugene Tree Foundation have found a way to preserve the old black walnut tree that towers over the corner of 6th and Madison (News Briefs, 12/11). The Tree Foundation and other concerned tree lovers met with Eugene’s urban forester, Mark Snyder, last week to discuss the walnut that was scheduled to come down Dec. 15.

Alby Thoumsin, an arborist with Sperry Tree care and former president of the Eugene Tree Foundation, says they looked at the tree and it’s evaluation and decided the tree didn’t merit removal. Thoumsin says that the group went to Snyder and asked, “How can we help?”

Snyder says that he “appreciated that they contacted me” and that the calls from the arborists led him to review the report on the tree. He discovered that two of the main areas of concern — the cankers and the horizontal ridges in the bark caused by stress — did not actually make the tree unsafe. The stem cankers don’t decay the wood beneath them, Snyder says. The ridges, because they are beneath the branches, not above them in the “tension wood,” which gives the tree its strength, are not a sign that the branches are in danger of breaking. With these findings, Snyder says, “the significance of the safety risk is lowered.”

Even with those issues resolved, the problem still remained that the tree needed pruning to prevent future branches from breaking and falling, and such pruning is

not in the city’s budget.

That’s where the Eugene Tree Foundation stepped in. They offered to partner with the city and not only take care of the branches that need pruning but also to pick the walnuts every July to reduce the weight on the branches and reduce walnut-induced car problems. That would leave the walnut tree to stand safely where it’s been for 100 years. Black walnut trees can live to be 200 years old. The LaFollette Black Walnut in Salem, a designated Heritage Tree, was believed to have been planted around 1880.

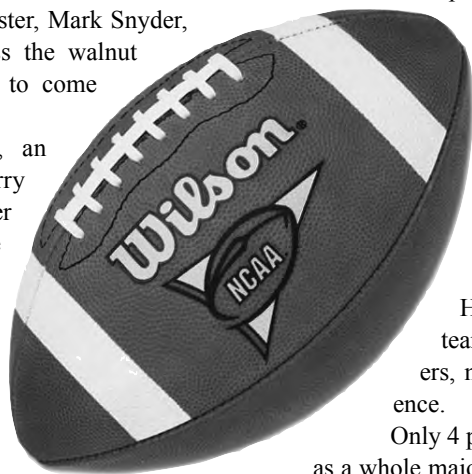
Thoumsin says different arborist companies will help out with the walnut tree and other trees in the future. For this tree, the city will supply a bucket truck and traffic control, and the arborists will provide their labor and expertise. “It’s a win-win situation,” Thoumsin says.

For more information about Eugene’s street trees visit www.eugenetreefoundation.org or link to “urban forestry” at www.eugene-or.gov

— Camilla Mortensen

POLITICAL FOOTBALL MAJORS

The UO has an “extreme” concentration of men’s football and basketball players majoring in political science, which could raise concerns that the university may have clustered athletes in easy classes to protect eligibility.



Forty-one percent of UO seniors and juniors on the football team, 15 of 37 students, major in political science, according to a *USA Today* database published on the internet. Half the UO basketball team, four of eight players, majors in political science.

Only 4 percent of UO students as a whole major in political science. An investigative report by *USA Today* found that such statistically “extreme” clusters of athlete majors raise questions of whether athletes and the athletic department are using easy classes in the major to avoid NCAA penalties for poor academic performance by athletes.

“When you have extreme clustering,” NCAA President Myles Brand, a former president of the UO told *USA Today*, “you really do have to ask some hard questions: Is there an adviser who’s pushing students into this? Are there some faculty members who are too friendly with student athletes?”

The New York Times reported in 2006 on an academic scandal at Auburn University involving a sociology professor who gave athletes high grades and full course credits for “independent study” classes that required little or no actual study.

According to its website, the UO

• **In calling for yet more prison beds**, Lane County’s 15 Circuit Court judges should be hauled off for contempt of the citizens’ intelligence. Fact: The U.S. incarcerates a higher percentage of its population than any other nation in the world. Fact: Oregon spends a larger portion of its budget on prisons than any other state in the nation (Pew Center). Fact: Lane County’s violent crime rate has fallen 42 percent in the last decade (Oregon Criminal Justice Commission). Fact: Eugene ranks as one of the safest cities in the nation (FBI data).

Even if the judges ignore the evidence and continue to argue that there’s a “deepening crisis” in crime and “the county cannot provide a safe place for our citizens to live and work,” what’s the best way to reduce crime? Studies confirm that prevention using drug, alcohol and mental health treatment, education and social welfare programs provide far more bang for the buck than prisons. Prisons cost \$100,000 a bed to build and \$30,000 a bed per year to operate.

If the judges still want to lock up taxpayer money in expensive jails, what would they cut to do it? Head Start? Senior programs? Mental health and drug treatment? Judge salaries? Whose taxes would they increase? On the realities of the county’s budget, the county’s blind justices are mum, and that makes them moot.

• Suppose **Peter DeFazio** decides to run for governor in 2012. He’d have a good shot at winning, and that would open up all sorts of possibilities. Pete Sorenson could run for DeFazio’s seat in Congress. Bonny Bettman, all rested and refreshed, could run for Sorenson’s seat on the County Commission. She’s too energetic and driven to just sit around.

Meanwhile, we’re looking forward to seeing what George Brown does with Bettman’s City Council seat next year. He’s much quieter and more diplomatic than Bettman, but she says his intelligence, dedication and values make her feel much better about retiring from the council. In fact, if George Brown hadn’t come forward, we’re not sure Bettman would have stepped down.

• Another looming departure has us musing about whether we ought to have a column that tracks the creative folk who leave Eugene for Stumptown. The latest to plan a trek north is just-crowned (in the *EW* Best of Eugene readers’ poll) Best Bartender **Jeffrey Morgenthaler**, who’s riding a wave of national publicity (including mentions in *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*) as he leaves Bel Ami for Portland’s Clyde Common. We’re sad to see him go, but at least he’s not going far.

• **Kudos to Mason Williams** and his friends and colleagues for putting on a spectacular Holiday Show last weekend at the Hult. The production showcased the exceptional musical talent that can be found in our community, from middle school kids to white-haired professionals. Loved every minute. Mason Williams has talked about retiring from performing, but he recently completed a road tour, and he’s back in top form. We hope he produces this community Holiday Show again, and again.



• **Sold out?** David Wagner’s hand-drawn *Willamette Valley Nature Calendar* makes an excellent local gift for nature lovers, but it’s been hard to find. Wagner tells us he’s just delivered 40 more to Down to Earth, and more can be found at the UO Museum of Natural and Cultural History. Wagner writes and illustrates a monthly “It’s About Time” feature in *EW* the first week of each month.

• **Tossing shoes at the president?** Why would Iraqi journalist Muntadhar al-Zeidi undertake such a bold and dangerous insult? Look at the numbers; look at the lives. Somewhere between 98,000 and one million Iraqis have suffered violent deaths since the U.S. invasion. Countless others have been maimed. No U.S. soldiers have died this week (19 were seriously injured), but 305 Iraqi civilians have been reported killed in bombings and assassinations this past week, and 335 the week before that. Bush’s invasion unleashed and inflamed a disastrous civil war. This shoe-tossing incident is profoundly symbolic for the people of the Mideast, and Bush, in typical callous fashion, joked about it.

SLANT includes short opinion pieces, observations and rumor-chasing notes compiled by the EW staff. Heard any good rumors lately? Contact Ted Taylor at 484-0519, editor@eugeneweekly.com

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news Briefs

Political Science Department offers similar "self-directed courses designed to allow students to explore an area of interest outside of the courses offered through the department. Because students' interests are so varied, topics have run the gamut."

— Alan Pittman

may save some overhead, but in the process sacrifice much more valuable assets inherent in the present location," Malito says. "Much more than authenticity and integrity will become a causality if they uproot the company. It is questionable whether standards of quality, craftsmanship and efficiency will actually transfer and/or improve in the process."

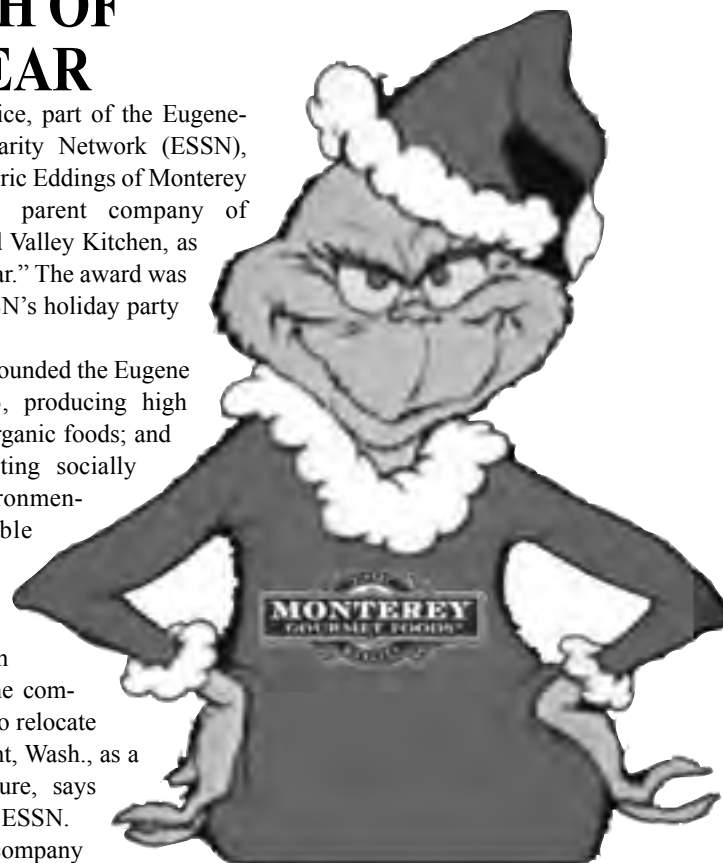
Emerald Valley Kitchen has 25 employ-

GRINCH OF THE YEAR

Jobs with Justice, part of the Eugene-Springfield Solidarity Network (ESSN), has named CEO Eric Eddings of Monterey Gourmet Foods, parent company of Eugene's Emerald Valley Kitchen, as "Grinch of the Year." The award was announced at ESSN's holiday party Dec. 24.

Mel Bankoff founded the Eugene business in 1983, producing high quality, healthy organic foods; and he began promoting socially conscious, environmentally sustainable practices as well. He sold the business to Monterey Gourmet Foods in 2002, and now the company is planning to relocate the kitchen to Kent, Wash., as a cost-saving measure, says Jeanine Malito of ESSN.

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news Briefs

ees and “is one of Monterey Gourmet Foods’ most efficient and profitable businesses,” says Malito.

ESSN is urging local people to contact Monterey Gourmet Foods to try to stop the move. The company’s address is 1528 Moffet St., Salinas, CA, 93905. Call (800) 588-7782 or email human resources at hr@MontereyGourmetFoods.com or Eric Eddings at erice@MontereyGourmetFoods.com

EARLY DEADLINES

Christmas and New Year’s Day both fall on Thursday, our usual publishing day, so *EW* offices will be publishing a day early the next two weeks. Our offices will be closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, and closing at 3 pm Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve. Early deadline for reserving display ads for the Dec. 24 issue will be 3 pm Thursday, Dec. 18, and the early deadline for the Dec. 31 issue will be 3 pm Wednesday, Dec. 24. Deadlines return to normal Friday, Jan. 2, for the Jan. 8 issue. Questions? Call 484-0519.

ON THE WEB THIS WEEK

• At blogs.eugeneweekly.com: Ted blogs about the burglary at NextStep

WAR DEAD

Since the U.S. invasion of Iraq began on March 20, 2003

- (last week’s numbers in parentheses):
- **4,209 U.S. troops killed*** (4,209)
- **30,871 U.S. troops injured*** (30,852)
- **167 U.S. military suicides*** (167)
- **314 coalition troops killed**** (314)
- **1,123 U.S. contractors killed** (accurate updates NA)
- **98,133 to 1.1 million civilians killed***** (97,828)
- **\$579.8 billion cost of war** (\$577.8 billion)
- **\$164.9 million cost to Eugene taxpayers** (\$163.2 million)

* through Dec. 15, 2008; source: icasualties.org; some figures only updated monthly

** sources: icasualties.org, defenselink.mil

*** highest estimate; source: iraqbodycount.org; based on confirmed media reports; other groups calculate civilian deaths as high as 655,000 (Lancet survey, 2006) to 1.1 million (Opinion Research Business survey, 2008)

recycling Dec. 14 and what we can do about it; Chuck releases Episode 16 of the **Signal:Noise music podcast**, showcasing Eugene bands; Camilla deconstructs a DOJ press release **declaring the “war on eco-terrorists”** a success while also noting the **Clean Coal Carolers** phenomenon. Molly notes that in the U.K. you can read books on your Nintendo DS.

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Often the best gifts are the most immediately gratifying. This might explain why we gift-wrap so many bottles of booze during the holidays: Nothing says "I want you to be happy" like a bottle of Patrón or Argyle Reserve Pinot Noir. And, sure, its handiness is unequalled for post-dinner political conversations with the relatives. But what about for the morning after? And the afternoon after that? All that free time *could* be spent on a coastal hike or a game of Ultimate with the siblings, but let's get real: You're a couch potato and proud of it. So what in tarnation will keep you entertained in the comfort of your living room through the holidays?

In the category of video games, you've



got plenty of options. Too many options, it seems. Not being a regular gamer myself, I asked Justin Ravenwood-Field, owner of Big City Gamin' on 13th and Willamette, to winnow this season's releases down to the very best. Using his more than 15 years of video game sales experience, Ravenwood-Field named the hits, console-by-console, for this holiday season.

For the Nintendo Wii, Ravenwood-Field points to the popularity of the **Wii Balance Board** peripheral. With the Balance Board you can practice yoga (**Wii Fit**), perform a switch kickflip (**Skate It**) and

Hot Potatoes

Gifts for those glued to the boob tube

BY CHUCK ADAMS

carve up the mountain (**Shaun White Snowboarding**), in addition to practicing tight rope walking and calisthenics. Ten years from now people will look back at the generation who turned their atrophied bodies into trophy bodies by staying inside their homes and playing video games and think we were either brilliant or deranged.

Our reply: "Lighten up! We're couch PO-tay-toes! Now, see if you can move jelly beans across the obstacle course with your butt as fast as we can!"

For owners of the PlayStation3, Ravenwood-Field recommends **LittleBigPlanet** for those who like building their own avatars and worlds, puzzle-style, and

sharing them with others online. For fans of sneak-attacks and spy-actions, **Metal Gear Solid 4: Guns of the Patriots** is "huge."

Then there are the games for numerous

platforms. "The best game for a couch potato — for the one-player experience — is hands-down **Fallout 3**," says Ravenwood-Field. "It's supposed to be over 100 hours of gameplay, so that's just ridiculous." The action of **Fallout 3** (available on PS3 and Xbox 360) takes place in a post-apocalyptic U.S. in the year 2277. When the player's father (voiced by Liam Neeson) goes missing from their fallout shelter, the player is wrongfully accused of foul play and must retrace the father's steps to find him. Oh, and you've gotta evade mutant government thugs and stuff. "I think it's going to be game of the year," Ravenwood-Field says.

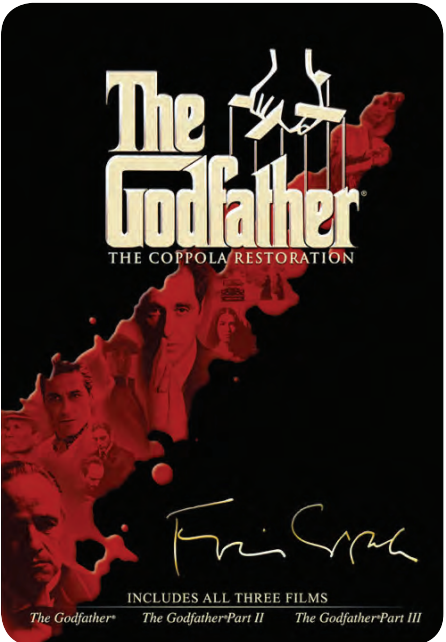
Other recommended titles include the parkour-based action game **Mirror's Edge**, the "driving game that nobody's talking about" **Midnight Club: Los Angeles** and the "so popular you better get it quick" zombie fantasy **Left 4 Dead**. But what if you want the cinema without having to make all those choices with a controller?

"Blu-ray really is the hot thing in DVDs this season," says Ravenwood-Field, who

sells DVDs at Big City Gamin' as well. If you have a serious film snob on your list, do not overlook the Blu-ray edition of **The Godfather: The Coppola Restoration**, which returns all three films to their warm, rich, grainy 35mm splendor, complete with 5.1 digital surround sound. Hours and hours of mob hits and decapitated horses. Of course, there are the requisite comic book flicks out just in time for Christmas:

The Dark Knight, **Iron Man** and **Hellboy 2**. And then there are the TV series box sets that look oh-so-much better in Blu-ray: **Band of Brothers**, **Planet Earth** and, yes, **The Sopranos**, because, like mob bosses, couch potatoes want hours of entertainment without moving a muscle.

EW



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A Gift That Could Land You a New Sweater

BY JESSICA HIRST



The all-female college I attended back in the late '90s was crawling with boyish-hipped women who had pierced eyebrows and short, rumped hair. They wore low-slung jeans and studded belts, and they knew the New York subway system.

And they knew how to knit. At night, a group of them would sit in front of the fireplace in a circle and pull out their needles.

Since the '90s, knitting has changed from a grandmotherly hobby to one that people of almost any age — and gender — can enjoy. So, whether you need to buy a holiday gift for an ironic college chick, your sister who makes sequined sweaters for her terrier or your crafty uncle, a knitting item might just be the way to go.

Luckily, Eugene has two excellent yarn stores: Soft Horizons Fibre, at 412 E. 13th, and Knit Shop Inc. at the Southtowne Shops. Both stores offer a wide variety of useful and fun gifts for beginning and experienced knitters.

Just in time for those last-minute gifts, I took a visit to both stores to get some recommendations. I ended up with lots of gift suggestions in various categories. Here are some highlights:

Specialty wool At Soft Horizons, the softest balls of cashmere ever and fuzzy, shimmery hand-dyed yarns by Prism. At

Knit Shop, wool made from yaks owned by Tibetan herders and silky merino wool in vibrant hues of turquoise and purple.

Organizers At both stores, stylish, roomy bags for knitting paraphernalia and fold-up cases for knitting needles in cute patterns.

Tools and accessories At Soft Horizons, glow-in-the-dark knitting needles (for nights by the campfire or to keep those electric bills down) and locally made stitch markers. At Knit Shop, wool winders for turning messy yarn into neat balls and tape measures in the shape of animals.

Project packs At both stores, all-in-one packages for making scarves are popular with beginners.

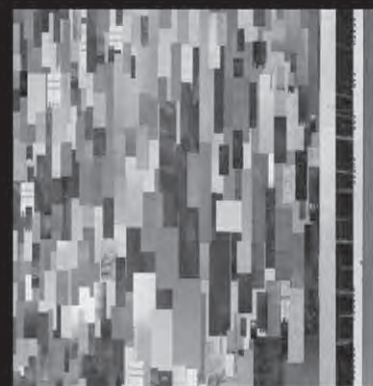
Specialty projects At Soft Horizons, needle-felting kits that let you make ornaments and decorations, and beads that you can knit into jewelry. At Knit Shop, cord-like yarn by Noro that you can use to make purses and wallets.

Books and DVDs. For beginners, *The Knitting Handbook* by Vicki Square, and any book in the *Stitch N' Bitch* series by Debbie Stollen. For more practiced knitters, *The Knitter's Book of Yarn* by Clara Parkes. For a laugh, *Drunk, Divorced and Covered in Cat Hair* by Laurie Perry. Both stores carry these books, and Soft Horizons also offers a number of how-to DVDs. **EW**

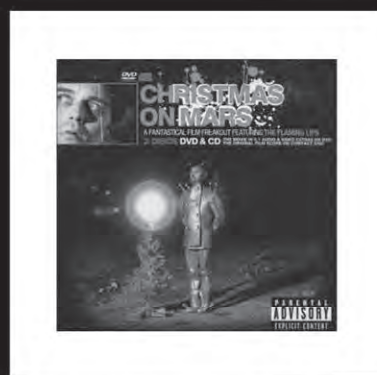
Nick Wants Hits



Buckcherry
Black Butterfly \$12⁹⁹



Death Cab For Cutie
Narrow Stairs \$12⁹⁹



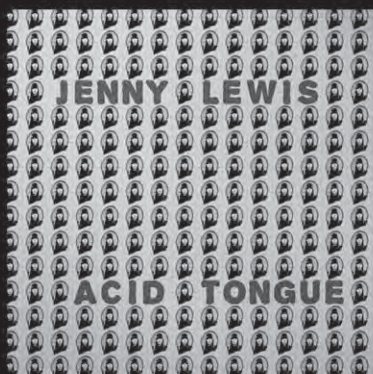
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Christmas On Mars
Limited Edition CD/DVD \$18⁹⁹



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Jenny Lewis
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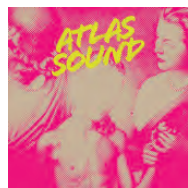
As the year winds down, CDs pile up. Since we generally only cover artists who are coming through Eugene, we all wind up with things we've not had an occasion to include in *EW* – and, OK, a few things we want to talk about again. This year, we asked our frequent music contributors to list their three most-played iTunes songs (for context), three or four great CDs from 2008 and one local release that deserves a last bit of highlighting before the calendar flips over and we're once again obsessed with the new.

CHUCK ADAMS

Most-Played iTunes Songs:

1. Portishead, "Silence"
2. Girl Talk, "Shut the Club Down"
3. Los Campesinos!, "My Year in Lists"

Selected Outstanding Albums



Atlas Sound, *Let the Blind Lead Those Who Can See But Cannot Feel* (Kranky)

Sure, Bradford Cox and his Deerhunter cohorts released the fine, fuzzy *Microcastle* this fall, but back in early spring Cox (as Atlas Sound) released the more personally engaging *Feel*, a dark, singular, cerebral vision of childhood trauma and aural growth. Listen to this in the dark with headphones while you try to fall asleep and your dreams just might come true.



El Guincho, *Aleganza!* (Beggars XL)

If M.I.A. brought London-via-Sri Lanka worldbeat to the foreground with last year's *Kala*, El Guincho's *Aleganza!* should prove

to be 2008's introduction to Barcelona-via-Brazil tropical bacchanal. It's like one-man-band Pablo Díaz-Reixa toured the world's sweatiest backpacker nightclubs in Latin America and bottled it up, releasing that energy in track after track of trance-dub bliss.

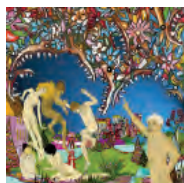


Los Campesinos!, *Hold On Now, Youngster... and We Are Beautiful, We Are Doomed* (Arts & Crafts)

So many British pop-rock and punk bands sound the same to me. Then I listened to Los Campesinos!, a septet of collegiates barely breaking age 22, and found something both familiar and explosively new. Buried within *Youngster* and its "extended EP" *Doomed* (both released this year) is a creative fire that touches on, yes, youthful transgressions, but also, in its lyrical screeds and all-hands-on-deck musicianship, sober conclusions: Our time is short. Let's enjoy it.

Of Montreal, *Skeletal Lamping* (Polyvinyl)

I was going to plug Girl Talk's brilliant *Feed the Animals* in this space, but then Of Montreal went and made an album using



GT's schizophrenic arrangements but with all-original music. *Skeletal Lamping* takes over 20 repeated listens to get acquainted, but once it clicks the album erupts into flaming balls

of gooeey, poppy goodness. Identity crises don't get any sexier. (And as far as album packaging goes, you can't beat the visual feasts available for this disc.)

LOCAL LOVE: The Electronic



Muke, *Shutterspeed Lullabies*

Sure, there are more layers on these iBook-produced electro-pop morsels than Muke has fingers. But somehow, against the digital

current, the local duo of Maddie Liebowitz and Luke Kazava manage to pull off a low-key, often humorous album. Liebowitz's tinny, chirpy voice delivers breathy choruses while Kazava's subtle guitar work blends well in the production.

SARA BRICKNER

Most-Played iTunes Songs:

1. Saltlick, "Cimmaron" (Seriously. Not fibbing.)
2. Gillian Welch, "Wrecking Ball"
3. Common, "The Food"

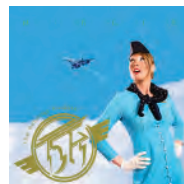
Selected Outstanding Albums



Common Market, *Tobacco Road* (Massline Media)

Hip hop concept albums are not exactly common. And they're not always successful. But RA Scion is one

of Seattle's best MCs, and DJ Sabzi, the producer behind the Blue Scholars (probably the hottest hip hop group of this year), is a beat-making genius. Unfortunately, Common Market hasn't received as much national attention this year as the Scholars, but that might well change once the rest of the world catches on to the duo's sharp rhymes about the long, arduous road from the tobacco plantation to 40 acres and what once passed for freedom.



The Saturday Knights, *Mingle* (Light in the Attic)

If they'd just gone on tour this year, The Saturday Knights' debut LP, *Mingle*, would be on every last one of

those pointless Best Records of 2008 lists everyone loves to hate (but reads anyway). Why? Because The Saturday Knights are the only band to successfully combine hip hop and rock and roll music. *Mingle*'s witty, tongue-in-cheek rhymes and infectious beats succeed where the juvenile Gym Class Heroes, whose sound is a little too close to hip hop New Found Glory for my comfort, failed. Alas, you'll just have to hock your GCH record and buy *Mingle* instead. You can thank me later.



Why?, *Alopecia* (Anticon)

I've always thought Why?'s screwy electro hip hop was great, but it hasn't always been very accessible, what with the muddled, shoegazer

moments and Yoni Wolf's occasional mumbling problems. With *Alopecia*, that all changed. It's poppier without being formulaic; fun, but still witty. And yeah, you'll come for the catchy electronics, but it's rhymes like "blowing kisses to disinterested bitches" that make Why? so damn great.

LOCAL LOVE: The Underrated



Animal Farm, *The Unknown* (Focused Noise Productions)

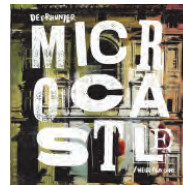
I can't say for sure that this album's been underrated, but I do know it's a great record that deserves as much attention as I can give it. Animal Farm, a hip hop group whose members are divided among Eugene, Portland and San Francisco, makes clever club jams so hot they're steaming. The Pacific Northwest's hip hop scene is still developing – what we've got is good, but when it comes to Cali or the Midwest, we've got nothing – but whatever happens to the scene in the next few years, rest assured Animal Farm, with its fresh twist on true school hip hop, will be part of it. Just as long as the members don't let their geographic limitations get the better of them.

JEREMY OHMES

Most-Played iTunes Songs:

1. Wreckless Eric, "Whole Wide World"
2. New Order, "Ceremony"
3. The Futureheads, "Hounds of Love"

Selected Outstanding Albums



Deerhunter, *Microcastle* (Kranky)

I realize this album is on a lot of people's year-end, best-of lists, and I wish I could be more original. But this record is just that good.

Gone is the experimental-for-experiment's-sake, art punk attitude that distanced many from this Atlanta group's last record. And in its place is a hallucinatory guitar pop haze that feels like a daydream you never want to end. Yes, *Microcastle* is the most accessible Deerhunter album to date, but it's a warped accessibility – laced with surf guitars and bittersweet psychedelia – that I would love to hear blasting out of every car window on a scorching hot summer's day.



M83, *Saturdays = Youth* (Mute)

My buddy says this album sounds like Vangelis. Like that's a bad thing. Sure, with its tsunami-sized keyboard swells and lush, hyper-

stylized aesthetics, M83's latest soundscape could serve as a film score to the '80s, but let's be certain we're talking about the right '80s. *Saturdays = Youth* is more airy coming-of-age than isolated angst. It is more jubilant, ultra-romantic highs than melancholy wallpaper lows. It is more *Sixteen Candles* than *Blade Runner*. And honestly, the '80s never sounded so good.



Spiritualized, *Songs in A&E* (Fontana Int'l)

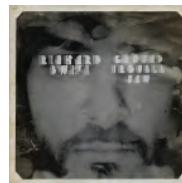
Spiritualized has always been about the overblown orchestration and grandiose gospel choruses but, because Jason Pierce's music

is so minimal to begin with, the ostentation works. So it's refreshing to hear him peel away some of the trademark bombast and let his sonic panoramas stretch out on their own. Don't get me wrong – the album is still signature Spiritualized with soulful motifs, shoegaze moments and Pierce's late night, slumped-in-the-corner desperation. But the willful restraint on this record imbues all those "Baby, baby"s with a new sense of urgency and emotional power.

LOCAL LOVE: The Nostalgic

Richard Swift, *Ground Trouble Jaw EP* (Secretly Canadian)

Whodathunk that some of the best doo-wop and soul I've heard in a long time would be coming out of Cottage Grove?



Moreover, whodathunk that it'd be coming from a curly-mopped, mustachioed white guy with a penchant for lo-fi production? Since 2005, Richard Swift has been steadily turning

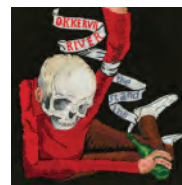
heads with little more than a four-track, a killer falsetto and a nostalgic '50s doo-wop/'60s soul sound. Swift might be Cottage Grove's best-kept secret (or vice versa), but download this free *EP* and start spreading the word.

VANESSA SALVIA

Most-Played iTunes Songs:

1. A bhanga version of Black Sabbath's "Iron Man," from the tribute to Black Sabbath album *Bhanga Bloody Bhanga*
2. Beirut, "Nantes"
3. Dean Martin, "Sway"

Selected Outstanding Albums



Okkervil River, *The Stand Ins* (Jagjaguwar)

When I visited my friend who lives in Austin, Texas, where Okkervil River is from, I received an immersion course in what's to

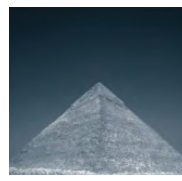
love about the band. I heard them played continuously and saw them perform twice within a 12-hour period. After that much exposure, I got it about the music. It's charming and tattered, clever, but not too. An absorbing mixture of melodrama and a literate dissection of life's many follies, set to Motown horns and indie-rock melodies.



The Sea and Cake, *Car Alarm* (Thrill Jockey)

This isn't my favorite Sea and Cake record, but there's no way I could not include this. After multitudinous listens to each of their 10 releases

over the past 10 years, Sam Prekop's voice has become an inescapable part of my existence. Their catalog is perfect for picking up on the breezy Caribbean melodies via gin and tonics in the summer sun, or mellow late night listenings when it's 2 am and everything else is too harsh.

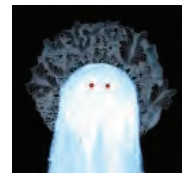


Jesu, *Why Are We Not Perfect?* (Hydra Head)

I've followed the thread of Justin Broadrick's career beginning with Napalm Death and through his many side projects, and

his music reveals to me an intimacy and sense of longing that I don't find anywhere else. Jesu perfectly crystallizes despair and loneliness, though there's a joy between all the gauzy layers that becomes more apparent as he moves further away from crushing heaviness of his early days.

LOCAL LOVE: The Monumental



Rye Wolves, *Oceans of Delicate Rain* (Aurora Borealis)

The geographical comparisons come almost too easily – this is a monumental sound, angular guitars

threaten to shred anything in their path, cavernous swaths of tension build up into an earthquake of release. It's mostly instrumental, but when frontman Abram Hurd does sing it's epic. The songs on this CD are a balanced equation of math rock and discordant turbulence, mastered as it was by James Plotkin, whose credits include Khanate, Black Sun, Isis, Pelican, Melvins and related others.

MOLLY TEMPLETON

Most-Played iTunes Songs:

1. Band of Horses, "Our Swords"
2. Frightened Rabbit, "The Modern Leper"
3. Azure Ray, "If You Fall"

Selected Outstanding Albums



Frightened Rabbit, *The Midnight Organ Fight* (Fat Cat)

I've already written two long blog posts this year about the awesomesauce of seeing Frightened

Rabbit live. I suspect that this may be a band you have to see live to fall thoroughly for, but that doesn't mean *The Midnight Organ Fight* isn't fantastic – and just as hard to explain as it was the first time. It's not that the Rabbit boys are doing something shockingly new, but that they're doing heartbroken, misbegotten, half self-destructive, half hopeful love songs as well as they can be done.



Amanda Palmer, *Who Killed Amanda Palmer* (Roadrunner)

I've barely heard Palmer's other band, the Dresden Dolls; I've had this

CD for less than 24 hours. It doesn't matter. I've followed the story of *Who Killed Amanda Palmer* through the blogs of two of Palmer's collaborators, writer Neil Gaiman and photographer Kyle Cassidy, who worked with her on an accompanying book, and their posts piqued my interest; the video for the throaty, dirty cabaret singalong "Leeds United" cemented it. *Who Killed* begins with the desperate, lonely "Astronaut: A Short History of Nearly Nothing." Palmer's piano marches through the song, giving and taking the reins from her ferocious voice. It's an auspicious start.



TV on the Radio, *Dear Science* (Interscope)

Well, somebody had to include it. The critics' darling continues to

dominate year-end lists, though *Dear Science* doesn't feel quite as inescapable as 2006's *Return to Cookie Mountain*. *Science* has its off moments ("Crying"), but it also has the sweetness of "Family Tree," the retro joy of "Golden Age" and the antsy anticipation of "Halfway Home," which, like TVOTR's best songs, sounds like a distillation of everything the band finds interesting, all swirled into a genre-twisting, swoonworthy whole. It takes four and a half minutes to fully build, but the fuzzy, loopy payoff is completely worth it.

Several other things I will surely love once I've listened to them more, in no particular order: Mates of State, *Rearrange Us*; Horse Feathers, *House With No Home*; Ra Ra Riot, *The Rhumb Line*; Alkaline Trio, *Agony & Irony*; Deerhunter, *Microcastle*; Meursault, *Pissing on Bonfires/Kissing With Tongues*.

LOCAL LOVE: The Ghoulish The Sawyer Family, *The Burning Times*

Are you sure you and your loved ones got your fill of psychobilly murder ballads and werewolves' laments this year? Really? I think you could all use a few more. Don't you? If you're still unsure, perhaps you should trot over to YouTube and watch the video for "Say Goodbye," then ask yourself that question one last time.

EW

Homegrown Holiday Sounds

Give a bit of Oregon

BY BRETT CAMPBELL

Thank DARPA for the internet – without it, how would we be able to snag last minute musical gifts out of thin air? Here's some worthy homegrown music to stuff up your stocking, or someone else's.

In Mulieribus: *Live 2004-2008*



Moving well beyond the 12th century French music that graced their debut disk, the new CD by the sublime Portland female early music ensemble includes some of the greatest medieval composers – Hildegard of Bingen, Guillaume Dufay, Guillaume de Machaut. Then it ranges even farther afield, moving down the centuries to the magnificent Renaissance polyphony of Tomas Luis de Victoria, Giovanni Palestrina, Cristobal Morales and Thomas Morley, and even a 20th century hymn by Maurice Durufle. The musicians handle it all with aplomb, scholarly authenticity and passion. Live albums are notoriously tricky (coughing, clapping, clunkers, candy wrappers), but in this case, the resonant acoustics of the Portland and Salem churches where these concerts were recorded over the past five years only enhances the beatific beauty of *In Mulieribus* ("among women" in Latin) iridescent sound. There are even a couple of 15th century carols (remember – still 12 days of Christmas to go), making this an ideal seasonal CD. Anonymous 4, Trio Medieval, watch out – these women from Oregon, who are drawing national attention and airplay, are nipping at your heels.

Tomas Svoboda: *String Quartets Vol. 2* (North Pacific)

The dean of Oregon composers retired from teaching at Portland State a few years ago and (like George Crumb and other composer-profs) has been on a compositional tear ever since. Svoboda's fifth through eighth string quartets, composed between 2003 and 2006, though nestled squarely in a tonal, post-Bartok, late-20th century language, demonstrate the breadth of his compositional range. Quartet #5 is based on Renaissance harmonies that quickly turn modern, while #6, though equally intense, evinces a tense melancholy appropriate to its inspiration, that great 20th century composer of string quartets, Dmitri Shostakovich. Quartet #7, based on folk music materials, broods its way to bleakness. The epic final quartet traverses a world of emotion, culminating in a delicate sigh, in its single, 20-minute movement and feels like a career summation. But just last month, Portland's Third Angle new music ensemble premiered the composer's new 10th quartet, which shone with a pastoral quality heretofore rare in the composer's output. Nearing age 70 and approaching 200 published works, this great Northwest composer is still capable of surprises.

Don Latarski: *Acoustica Funkus* (Crescent)



The local fingerstyle blues-jazz fretboard legend, who heads the UO guitar studies program, has essayed a wide range of styles throughout his four decades as a studio musician, leader of three different bands and composer for film, TV and stage – and in other performance contexts. But he stays fresh by setting himself new challenges. For his 13th CD, he wondered, what would it be like to cover classic 1970s jazz-funk tunes – in bluegrass style? It works much better than you'd expect, in part because the unexpected approach avoids competing with the incomparable originals and reveals their universal musical strength. Making extensive and judicious use of overdubs and loops, Latarski plays acoustic guitar, a baritone ukulele, a 6-string hybrid instrument called a "banjitar" and a soprano guitar masquerading as a mandolin. The resulting laid back, back porch feel offers new insights into even familiar fare like Herbie Hancock's "Watermelon Man" and "Cantaloupe Island," Joe Zawinul's "Mercy, Mercy" and Miles Davis' "So What," while Latarski's three originals fit snugly into the laid back funkiness.

Mood Area 52: *Remember This Dream: First in Line to Get Stuck with a Pin* (Rocketboy Arts)

I hadn't heard MA52 in far too long, and this pair of new albums (recorded simultaneously) came as a shock. While maintaining all the tangofied goodness of its earlier work, Mood Area 52 has evolved into terrific indie band, complete with memorable tunes and plenty of passion, as indicated by bandleader Michael Roderick's heart-y cover drawings on both CDs. Billy Barnett's guitars plus a rhythm section add some oomph to the original atmosphere conjured by Amy Danziger's cello and Roderick's accordion and horns, and his gritty vocals (expertly paired with Marietta Bonaventura's clear soprano) and evocative lyrics remind me of Tom Waits without the pretentiousness. The recent wave of bands channeling klezmer/cabaret/Eastern European instruments and influences seldom transcends novelty act pastiche, but MA52 offers a richer, multicultural palette – a confident band clearly hitting its stride and poised for national prominence.

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JAMES JOHNSTON

Save the Pretty Horses

Who's taking care of Lane County's neglected equines? ■ BY CAMILLA MORTENSEN

Ears pricked with eagerness, Andy nibbles at a hand, searching with his lips and soft muzzle for another peppermint snack. The hay he's been munching decorates the red forelock that spills down over his big brown eyes. His snort of exasperation when he isn't able to find another treat sends plumes of steam into the cold damp air of an Oregon winter. These days not getting enough peppermint snacks is his biggest problem, but it wasn't that long ago that the horse was facing starvation and death, neglected with 20 or so of his relatives, breeding

and inbreeding unchecked, at an alleged meth lab outside Veneta.

Soft-hearted horse lovers were able to get many of the animals to safety. As the story goes, while they were waiting for the authorities to step in, concerned horsewomen would show up to the owner's trailer with bottles of liquor and offer to trade him the alcohol for the horses. One by one most of the horses got out. Later, Lane County Animal Services (LCAS) also stepped in and cited the owner for neglect. LCAS continues to monitor the horses left on the property.

Andy was one of the lucky ones. But even after he got out of the pasture where he was starving, he still wasn't safe. He was a half-grown colt, the smallest of the bunch, and starved. The other horses were appaloosas, meaning their coats featured spots and loud markings many horse people find compelling. Andy is plain old chestnut. "He had no color," his eventual rescuer Darla Clark says, using horseman's speak for a horse without bright markings. No one wanted, or was able, to take Andy in. "It broke my heart," Clark says.

In a time when there are too many hungry horses and not enough homes for them, being a plain little red horse with a sweet face just isn't enough. So after all he'd been through, Andy still faced being killed. Veterinary euthanasia is far more merciful than starving outside in the cold and is often a necessity in horse rescue, but Andy was a young horse who could lead a long happy life in the right home. Clark took him in at her Strawberry Mountain Mustang Rescue outside Roseburg to feed and care for him. She hopes that someday soon, someone will want to give a forever home to the little red colt.

The downturn in the economy is not only hitting Oregon families; it's hitting the animals those families own and love. Equines are among the most expensive of Lane County's pets, and horse owners are starting to feel the brunt of high prices and lost jobs at a time when the weather is cold and wet and the grass in the pastures has little sustenance. Hay and feed prices have skyrocketed. Now that winter has set in, horse rescuers are wondering if conditions are right for a perfect storm of horse neglect and abandonment. And as it turns out, there are no horse rescues located in Lane County and no laws against abandoning horses. What do people do when they can no longer afford the hundreds of dollars a month it can cost to feed and care for a horse? Is Lane County prepared for the high cost of helping horses?

Too little money, too many horses

Winters in western Oregon seem uniquely designed to make horses miserable. The endless rain wets their coats, leaving them cold and shivering. The mud and wet can create painful sores on their legs, and some horses even get scabs on their backs from a fungus that thrives on the nonstop moisture. Grass loses its nutrition during dark winter days, giving them little reward for their endless foraging.

Despite all this, most horses around Lane County aren't too bothered by the wet. After a day spent grazing in the pasture, often wearing a waterproof blanket, they come in to a warm dry barn and fill up on hay and feed. Then, they often receive a good brushing and some treats from a doting owner.

In 1993, OSU estimated there were over 100,000 horses in Oregon, and the numbers have only gone up. Horses work on farms and ranches, and in Lane County, thousands are owned for sport and pleasure. The pastures around Eugene echo with the sound of hoofbeats (or more accurately at this time of year, squelch with the sound of hoofs in the mud).

Thanks to the poor economy, more and more people are starting to find they are having trouble paying for the hay it takes to feed a horse through the winter, let alone the shoeing, vet bills and everything else it takes to keep a horse fed and cared for.

An 1100 pound horse eats about 2 percent of its body weight in hay every day, so one

horse needs a couple of tons of hay to make it through an Oregon winter. With hay prices at \$200 a ton, double last year's already high cost, horse owners are running out of money. Bernard Perkins, the cruelty and neglect officer for LCAS, says that when he goes out on a call and sees thin horses with only a bale or two of hay at hand, he has to explain to the owners, "One hundred pounds of hay for three horses for three days is not enough."

In addition to being fed and watered, horses also need yearly vaccinations and dental care. A horse's teeth grow its whole life, and if they aren't regularly floated (filed down), the horse can't chew and can starve to death. Dentistry on a horse runs from \$150 to as high as \$400. LCAS recommends dentistry starting at age 17, according to Perkins, but most veterinarians recommend yearly dental visits for all horses no matter the age.

Boarding a horse at a stable can cost \$200-\$300 a month. Horses need to be shod (\$75-\$200) or have their feet trimmed (\$25-\$50) every six to eight weeks. If a horse's feet aren't taken care of, they can go lame or even be crippled. As the saying goes, "No hoof, no horse," but not every horse owner knows that.

Shelter from the storm

According to Perkins, a lot of his job when he gets called out on suspected neglect cases is education. He tries to "educate animal owners in good husbandry," he says, "to give a better quality of life and living conditions for the animal." He says LCAS tries to keep horses with their owners whenever possible; most cases aren't intentional neglect but are people who don't know much about having horses. One recent case was a 9-year-old girl with her first horse. The girl "didn't know not to throw the horse's grain on top of his poop and pee," says Perkins. The family thought the horse didn't like hay, but it turns out that when his teeth were checked, they were so bad he couldn't chew. After some dental work and discussion of good horse care, this horse will be OK, Perkins thinks.

"I really do believe that for the most part people want to do right by their animals," says Perkins.

Perkins goes out on 15-20 calls a week for suspected horse neglect. At the same time he says he's monitoring five or six previous cases from Cottage Grove to Pleasant Hill. Perkins says most of his neglect calls are from concerned neighbors or people driving by. Sometimes it's an easy call: A well-meaning passerby sees a horse standing in the mud and thinks it's in trouble, and Perkins checks to see that the horse has the care standards required by law.

Other cases are more grim, like Andy and the appaloosas in Veneta. Those are the cases where some of the horses are too starved or injured to be saved or rescuers can't find homes to rehabilitate them. Then, the horses face euthanasia.

According to Lane County's ordinances, Perkins says, a horse must have access to water, enough food for its body weight and a dry spot to stand in its enclosure.

One thing Lane County does not require for livestock is shelter. Despite the months of endless rain, horses, as well as cattle, llamas and sheep are not required by law to be given shelter from the elements.

Sarge, a tall dark ex-racehorse that Clark has at her rescue, was an animal control case where people called in worried about how

skinny and exposed to the elements the aging thoroughbred was. Rather than take care of him, Clark says the owner threw a blanket over his filthy back.

When the rescuers got to him, they found worms on him, hidden under the blanket. Sarge has a traumatic arthritis in his ankles from his long-ago racing days and will always limp. He'll spend the rest of his life at Strawberry Mountain, unless an adopter wants a quiet horse to ride quietly on trails. That's a long way from the glitter of the racetrack, but it's far better than starving to death, covered in mud and worms.

Horse rescue is frustrating and heart breaking, the rescuers say, and laws in Lane County and Oregon just aren't strong enough to protect the horses. Sometimes when the sheriff or other services are called in, the officers just don't know what they're looking at, says Sandy Huey of Emerald Valley Equine Assistance (EVEA). Or an animal control officer goes out on a starving horse call and sees there are three bales of hay there, she says. Much later, the officer comes back, and there are still three bales of hay. Even if the horses can't get to it, when there's food available, animal control can't do anything.

In many cases, the rescue is dealt with without animal control officially getting involved. Rescuers come in, and the owners relinquish ownership before charges are filed.

Rescue me

LCAS doesn't have a barn for its horse rescue cases, nor does it have a horse trailer to get the horses out of bad situations. Instead Perkins and other officers rely on a network of people to help in these cases. Perkins says that people like Huey and the Sheriff's Posse are wonderful when it comes to helping with trailering and taking in horses, and local veterinarians provide care and sometimes even shelter for the animals.

Perkins relies heavily on Huey and EVEA, he says. Huey's rescue used to be located just outside of Eugene, but she has recently relocated to Silver Lake in eastern Oregon. She drives her truck and trailer across the Cascades to pick up rescue horses from around Eugene. Huey is worried about what's going to happen to horses on weeks where the weather is too bad for her to come over the mountains. She



'Saving horses, helping people.'

— Oregon Horse Welfare Council

wonders who will look out for all the horses LCAS doesn't have time or money to monitor.

Huey and Darla Clark of Strawberry Mountain are also worried, not only about all the horses out there that aren't being fed and cared for, but also about being able to buy hay for their own rescues. Huey says she's had only two cash donations since moving to the new location. Clark was delighted to get a large donation of oats from Eugene's Golden Temple, which she says the horses love, but she is keeping an anxious eye on her hay storage.

They're worried too about where Oregon's starved and neglected horses are going to go. The rescues are full. Clark has several older wild horses that were mistreated and distrust humans. It's not fair to keep those horses

confined, she says. She wants to see them go to a sanctuary where they can roam wild, but the sanctuaries are full.

And not all rescues are safe places like EVEA and Strawberry Mountain, Perkins says. Some rescuers become hoarders and take on more horses than they can feed and care for. "They love the animals, but they are loving them to death," he says.

None of the rescuers blames the recent closure of the last horse slaughter plants in the U.S. for the current problem, a claim that gained wide media attention last year and infuriated many horse lovers. Beckstead said the economy is so bad that the kill buyers who ship horses to be slaughtered in Canada and Mexico aren't going to the auctions around

Oregon. No one is buying horses.

What everyone — from horse owners to LCAS to the rescues — is suffering from is a lack of money. In an area where some parents will spend \$100,000 on a horse for a teenage daughter, hundreds of other horses are going unfed. Huey and Clark need donations to buy hay. LCAS came close to being closed this year due to county budget cuts. "Nobody likes to hear it," says Huey, but part of the solution is money.

But lack of money doesn't mean that horses have to suffer. Scott Beckstead, Pacific Northwest regional director for the Humane Society of the United States, has spearheaded an effort to help Oregon's horses before the problem gets worse. He is founding a group

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'I really do believe that for the most part people want to do right by their animals.'

— Bernard Perkins, LCAS

made up of a broad range of people — horse lovers, vets, breeders, animal control, among others — to work on the issue from multiple angles. The newly formed Oregon Horse Welfare Council will tackle what Beckstead, Clark and Huey all see as the main problem: overbreeding. Cases like Andy's wouldn't have been so dramatic if the stallions on the property had been gelded. Fewer horses being born means more food for the ones already there.

The group is working to provide low cost gelding of stallions (think spay and neuter, but for horses), a veterinary assistance fund, funds for hay and feed and a network of foster homes for horses whose owners can't keep them, even with assistance.

The OHWC has had two meetings, one in Eugene, and will hold another meeting next month in Clackamas. The group's motto is "saving horses, helping people," Beckstead says.

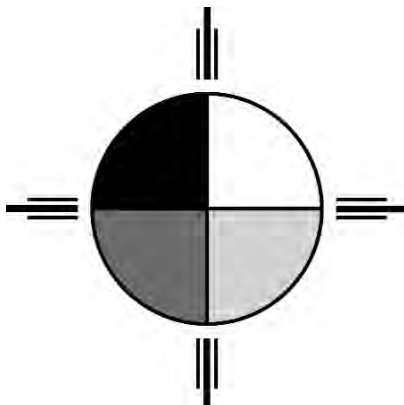
Another one of Beckstead's projects is toughening up Oregon's laws when it comes to horses. State senator Floyd Prozanski of Eugene is sponsoring a bill that would make it a crime to abandon a horse. Currently it is a crime to abandon "domestic animals" but horses are considered livestock, says Beckstead.

For now, what Lane County has for horses like Andy and Sarge is a lot of soft hearted horse-lovers who want to help out, and who have hopes for better laws and a better economy.

Andy has a bellyful of hay and oats and a home at the rescue and Clark hopes someone might want a little red horse for Christmas. **EW**

Go to www.strawberrymountainmustangs.com for more on Andy and other horses available for adoption. Email Emerald Valley Equine Assistance at eveahr@earthlink.net to find out how to help their rescue efforts. Email Scott Beckstead for more on the Oregon Horse Welfare Council at sbeckstead@hsus.org and call Lane County Animal Services at 682-3645 to learn what you can do for Lane County's horses.

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WHAT'S happening

This is the seventh year Eugene's Kudana marimba ensemble has staged a **benefit concert for famine relief** for Zimbabwe, but this year's event is even more critical. With a cholera epidemic claiming victims in rapid succession, a delusional regime that won't take responsibility and widespread starvation and dehydration, it is a good time to give anything you can at this concert (also featuring Deb Cleveland and the Vipers, pictured), silent auction, craft sale and tabling by the benefiting nonprofits. 7 pm Saturday, Dec. 20, at Cozmic Pizza. \$10-\$20 sliding scale.



We scoured the interwebs for something new and fresh to say about the Eugene Ballet Company's production of Tchaikovsky's ballet **The Nutcracker**, but we couldn't find anything. There's nothing new or fresh about the dance of the sugarplum fairies or the Nutcracker's triumphant defeat of the Mouse King, and that's why we like it. Like the dropping of the ball in Times Square, the holidays wouldn't be complete without a family outing to the ballet to witness the Russian fairytale. And the music by the Eugene Symphony Orchestra and Oregon Festival Choirs is sure to bring back many nostalgic memories. 7:30 pm Friday, Dec. 19; 2 pm and 7:30 pm Saturday, Dec. 20, and Sunday, Dec. 21, at the Hult Center. \$22+.



It's easy to be a Scrooge this year: All we think about is money ... notably the lack of it. Global warming? Universal health coverage? Alternative energy sources? Snooooooooooze. To Scrooges, this world runs on capital, not peace, love and understanding. For scrounging Scrooges and hapless Bob Cratchits, there's never a better

reason to check out Actors Cabaret's Broadway musical version of Charles Dickens' **A Christmas Carol**. The Victorian morality tale ramps up the energy with a cast of more than 30 that is sure to be, according to the hyperventilating press release, "nothing short of a Christmas card come to life!" 7:30 pm Friday, Dec. 19; 2 pm & 7:30 pm Saturday, Dec. 20; 2 pm Sunday, Dec. 21, at the Hult Center. \$17-\$22.



My Neighbor Totoro screens at the Springfield Library Monday

18

THURSDAY

Sunrise 7:43am; Sunset 4:36pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33
SnarkCast: PROBAIT

BENEFIT Willamette Jazz Society's Holiday Party & Fundraiser, feat. wine, food, music, 6:30pm, Jo Federigo's. \$20-\$50.

FILM Seniors in the Movies: *Venus*, 2:45pm, Campbell Center. FREE.

FOOD/DRINK Wine tasting: Wines for a "Long winter's nap," 5pm-9pm, WineStyles. \$5.

KIDS/FAMILY December art class w/Kim Jarvis, 3:30pm, Springfield Library. Register at Youth Services Desk. FREE.

LITERARY ARTS UO Bookstore fiction book group: *Hearts of Horses* by Molly Gloss, 6pm, Napoli's. FREE.

MUSIC "A Celtic Holiday," feat. music by Linda Danielson & Chico Schwall and storytelling w/ David Stuart Bull, 9:30pm today and Dec. 22-23; 3pm tomorrow and Dec. 20, Café Soriah. RSVP, 342-4410. \$10.

Break As We Fall, 7pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$5.

ON THE AIR "New Dimensions" presents "Dreaming Your Way to Higher Consciousness" with Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche, 6:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.

SOCIAL DANCE Cajun & Zydeco dance, feat. Cedryl Bal-lou & the Zydeco Trendsetters, 7pm lesson, 8pm dance, Rock 'n Rodeo, 7th & Willamette. \$10 adv., \$12 door.

19

FRIDAY

Sunrise 7:44am; Sunset 4:36pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33
SnarkCast: CHOO-CHOO

ARTS/VISUAL Live drawing session, 7pm, New Zone Gallery. \$5.

BENEFIT Miracle Lights Tour, benefits Children's Miracle Network, 7:15pm today & tomorrow, meet at Shopko parking lot on Coburg Road. RSVP, 688-0454. \$4, \$3 under age 12.

DANCE Eugene Ballet Company presents *The Nutcracker*, 7:30pm today; 2pm & 7:30pm tomorrow & Dec. 21, Hult Center. \$22+.

Middle Eastern Dance Guild of Eugene, feat. Raven, 8:30pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$5 sug. don.

FOOD/DRINK Wine tasting: La Dolce Vita and Namesté, 5pm-7pm, WineStyles. FREE.

Ye Old Christmas Feaste, w/ entertainment by Royale Jester, Lords & Ladies, 6:30pm today & tomorrow, Thurston High School cafeteria. 744-5141. \$15.

Vegan potluck, 7pm, McNail-Riley House. 341-1690. FREE.

GATHERINGS City Club Friday Forum: "The Opera: Adventures in the Underworld," w/Eugene Opera Artistic Director Mark Beudert, 11:50am, Downtown Athletic Club. \$5.

KIDS/FAMILY Winter Solstice Celebration, feat. storytelling by Esther Stutzman, dancing by Chinese American Benevolent Association's Lion Dancers and the Eugene Taiko Drummers, lec-

ture on Roman Saturnalia, crafts and more, 5pm-8pm, Museum of Natural & Cultural History, UO. \$3/person, \$8 family (FREE UO stu., staff).

MUSIC Bobby Six Crows plays "Santa's Blues," 4pm today and Dec. 26, Don Kahuna's, 720 Main St., Spfd. FREE.

"The Christmas Cello," holiday concert & CD release party w/ Dale Bradley, Doc Justice & Friends, 6pm, The Moon Upstairs, 228 Main, Spfd. FREE.

Proven, Monday with a Bullet, New World Sinner, Dark Iron Legacy, 9pm, WOW Hall. \$8 adv., \$10 door.

"A Celtic Holiday" continues. See Thursday, Dec. 18.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses the legitimacy of precognition, telepathy & out-of-body experiences, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

"Latent '80s" presents "An '80s Christmas" w/John Strieder, 8pm, KWVA 88.1 FM.

SOCIAL DANCE Waltz open dance w/lesson, 8:30pm, Staver-DanceSport. \$10.

SPIRITUAL "Dr. James Garrison's *The Emerging Planetary Wisdom Culture*," screening, discussion & refreshments, 7pm, Inside Edge Program, CSL, 390 Vernal St. www.EdgeEugene.org \$5-\$8.

THEATER Actors Cabaret presents *A Christmas Carol*, Broadway musical version, 7:30pm today; 2pm and 7:30pm tomorrow; 2pm Dec. 21, Hult Center. 682-5000. \$17-\$22, \$14-\$18 sr., child under age 12.

Lord Leebrick Theatre presents *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*, 7:30pm today & tomorrow; 2pm Dec. 21, Wildish Theater,

Spfd. 465-1506. \$17, \$14 sr., \$12 stu.

Nunsense, 8pm today & tomorrow, Cottage Theater, Cottage Grove. www.cottagetheatre.org or 942-8001. \$18, \$17 stu., sr.

20

SATURDAY

Sunrise 7:44am; Sunset 4:37pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33
SnarkCast: JILLY

BENEFITS Benefit concert for famine relief in Zimbabwe, feat. Deb Cleveland & The Vipers, Kudara, craft sales, silent auction, 7pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$10-\$20.

Miracle Lights Tour continues. See Friday.

COMEDY The Comedy Workout presents "Only 30 Shopping Days Until the Inauguration," 8pm, Diablo's. 21+. \$5.

DANCE Eugene Ballet Co.'s *The Nutcracker* continues. See Friday.

FARMERS' MARKET Holiday farmers' market, 10am-6pm Saturdays & Sundays through Dec. 21, Lane County Fairgrounds. FREE.

Hideaway farmers' market, 9am-2pm Saturdays through Dec. 27, 3377 E. Amazon (behind Mazzi's). FREE.

FILM The Met LIVE in HD: *Thai's*, starring Renée Fleming, 9am, Cinemark 17. \$24, \$22 sr., \$16 child.

FOOD/DRINK Port tasting & clinic, 2pm, WineStyles. \$15.

Ninkasi Holiday Beer Maker's Dinner, 6pm, Koho Bistro. RSVP, 681-9335.

Olde Christmas Feast continues. See Friday.

GATHERINGS Saturday Market's Holiday Market, featuring performances by Rich Glauber,

10:30am; Oak Hill Choir, 11:30am; Sacred Harp Singers, 12:30pm; The Traceys, 1:45pm; Adam & Kris, 3:15pm; Gypsy Moon, 4:45pm, 10am-6pm, Lane County Fairgrounds. www.holidaymarket.org FREE.

Veterans Holiday Party: Lane County veterans and veterans' families invited to attend, 10am-4pm, The Eugene Armory, 2515 Martin Luther King Blvd. FREE.

"Intro to the Internet, part one" computer clinic, 10am, Downtown Library. 682-5450. FREE.

Arc of Lane County's Holiday Bazaar, 10am-3pm, 4181 E St., Spfd. 343-5256. FREE.

La Posada Navideña, a Latino celebration of the Christmas story, 6pm, old Whiteaker School, 21 N. Grand St. FREE.

Winter Solstice Goddess Celebration, 7pm, WOW Hall. www.eugenewintersolstice.com or 463-0943. \$5-\$13.

KIDS/FAMILIES Eugene Ballet Company presents "Nutcracker Tea," noon today & tomorrow, Hult Center. 682-5000. \$25.

Drop-in open art studio for youth ages 12 and up, 10am-1pm, Emerald Art Center, Spfd. 726-8595. \$5.

Kidical Mass, 3pm, meet at Monroe Park, 10th & Monroe. FREE.

LGBT Radical Faeries, network of spiritually minded queer folk, meets, 10am, Cozmic Pizza. pip-pin@planetsong.net FREE.

Rowdy Rainbow River Womyn meets, McMenamins North Bank. 513-1639. FREE.

MUSIC Richard Guy & The Emerald Chamber Players, 2pm, Atrium bldg., 10th & Olive. FREE.

Thomas Mapfumo & the Blacks Unlimited, 8pm, Tsunami Books. \$15.

Sweetjuice CD release show, Lewi Longmire, Peter Wilde, 9:30pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$5.

"A Celtic Holiday" continues. See Thursday, Dec. 18.

Esther Stutzman tells stories at the UO's Museum of Natural & Cultural History's Winter Solstice Celebration Friday



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OUTDOORS/RECREATION

GEARs rides: Veneta breakfast ride, 50 miles (hilly) & 38 miles (flat), 9:30am, Alton Baker Park. www.eugenegears.org

SOCIAL DANCE Barn dance for seniors, feat. Country Club Band, 7pm, Petersen Barn Community Center. 682-5521. \$2.

Winter Ball & Showcase, formal attire required, 7:30pm, StaverDanceSport. \$15.

SPIRITUAL Winter Solstice Celebration, feat. music by Wind-song & Kat Del Rio, Jaya Lakshmi, w/yoga mantra, meditation, 7pm, Far Horizons School. 687-0282. \$12 adv., \$15 door.

THEATER Actors Cabaret's *A Christmas Carol* continues. See Friday.

Lord Leebrick's *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* continues. See Friday.

Nunsense continues. See Friday.

21
SUNDAY
Sunrise 7:45am; Sunset 4:37pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33
SnarkCast: MOTTLED

ARTS/VISUAL Fiber arts open studio, noon-4pm today & Dec. 28, Fox Hollow Farm & Fiber, 30781 Fox Hollow Rd. FREE.

BENEFIT Pet photos with Santa Paws, fundraiser for non-profits, 11am-3pm, Johnson Brothers Greenhouses, Coburg. \$5.

DANCE Eugene Ballet Co.'s *The Nutcracker* continues. See Friday.

FARMER'S MARKET Holiday farmers' market continues. See



Renée Fleming stars in The Met's *Thaïs*, showing live in HD at Gateway Mall's Cinemark 17 Saturday

Saturday.

GATHERINGS Piccadilly flea market, 10am-4pm, Lane County Fairgrounds. \$1.50.

Saturday Market's Holiday Market, featuring performances by Students of Laura Kemp, 10:30am; Michael Conley, 11:30am; Beth Miriam Rose & Friends, 12:30pm; Laura Kemp, 1:45pm; Sweet Papa Lowdown, 3:15pm; The Streamliners, 4:45pm, 10am-6pm, Lane County Fairgrounds. www.holidaymarket.org FREE.

KIDS/FAMILIES Eugene Ballet's "Nutcracker Tea" continues. See Saturday.

LITERARY ARTS Winter Solstice Nature Readings, bring your own nature writings to read, 3pm, Mount Pisgah Arboretum. \$5 sug. don.

MUSIC DJ Disston, Ore., 2pm, Wandering Goat. FREE.

Charles Talmadge, organist, 3:30pm, Trinity United Methodist

Church, 440 Maxwell Rd. FREE.

Brian Cutean, 5pm, Tsunami Books. Don.

Eugene Sacred Harp Singers' holiday concert, 7:30pm, Hilyard Community Center. Don.

Ty Connor's Solstice Pudding Nightmare Festival of Lights, w/ Richard Crandell, 8:30pm, Sam Bond's. \$5.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION BikeLane Coalition's Shortest Day Ride to Maitreya Ecovillage, 2:30pm, meet at bike path at 24th and Amazon Parkway. www.bikelanecoalition.org FREE.

Obsidians hike: Tahkenitch Dunes, 7 miles. See YMCA for details/sign-up.

GEARs rides: Deerhorn, 60 miles



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Dec 21, 2:00 & 7:30 pm*

* Dec 21 - 7:30 performance uses recorded music



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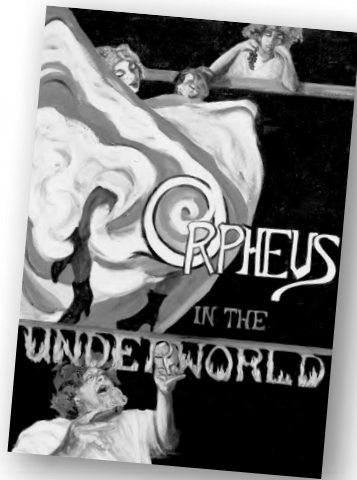
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calendar

(foodstop); Waltherville, 40 miles (bring food), 9:30am, Alton Baker Park. www.eugenegears.org

SPIRITUAL Meditation & healing circle, 4pm, call 510-2506 for directions. Don.

Interfaith chanting w/Netti Garner, 6pm, Unity of the Valley, 39th & Hilyard. 767-0953. Don.

Hanukkah & Winter Solstice Celebration, 6:30pm, Unitarian Church, 477 E. 40th. \$5-\$10 sug. don. (nobody turned away).

THEATER Actors Cabaret's *A Christmas Carol* continues. See Friday.

Lord Leebrick's *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* continues. See Friday.

22 MONDAY

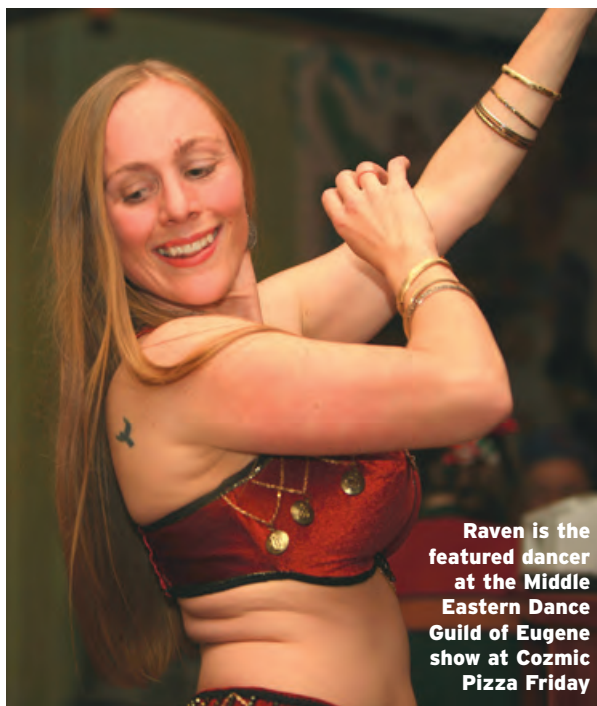
Sunrise 7:45am; Sunset 4:37pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33
SnarkCast: HOP-ON-POP

GATHERINGS Saturday Market's Holiday Market, featuring performances by Mary Ferris & Friends, 10:30am; Eric Nicholson, 11:30am; Janet Naylor & Linda Danielson, 12:30pm; Concret Loveseat, 1:45pm; Tim McLaughlin & Sean Peterson, 3:15pm; Rob & The Blueside, 4:45pm, 10am-6pm, Lane County Fairgrounds. www.holidaymarket.org FREE.

Anime Movie Night for teens: *My Neighbor Totoro*, 4:30pm, Springfield Library. FREE.

MUSIC "A Celtic Holiday" continues. See Thursday, Dec. 18.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses why we sing during the holidays, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.



Raven is the featured dancer at the Middle Eastern Dance Guild of Eugene show at Cozmic Pizza Friday

23 TUESDAY

Sunrise 7:46am; Sunset 4:38pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33
SnarkCast: LIMO-SUITED

FOOD/DRINK Wine tasting: "Best Xmas wines," benefits Cascade Medical Team, 5pm-9pm, WineStyles. \$10.

GATHERINGS Saturday Market's Holiday Market, featuring performances by Rob Tobias, 10:30am; Steve Goodbar, 11:30am; Janet Bates & Instruments of Change, 12:30pm; Sweet River, 1:45pm; Peter Wilde, 3:15pm;

McKenzie Drifters, 4:45pm, 10am-6pm, Lane County Fairgrounds. www.holidaymarket.org FREE.

Writers for a Sustainable Future meets, 6:30pm, Cozmic Pizza. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILIES The Reptile Man visits, 1pm & 3pm, Springfield Library. FREE.

MUSIC "A Celtic Holiday" continues. See Thursday, Dec. 18.

ON THE AIR "Alternative Radio" presents Benjamin Barber's lecture: "Runaway Capitalism," 6:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.

"The Jefferson Exchange" talks w/Tomaseen Foley about "A Celtic Christmas," 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

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calendar



Hockey plays PDX's Doug Fir Lounge Friday. See On the Road listings.

24 WEDNESDAY

Sunrise 7:46am; Sunset 4:39pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33
SnarkCast: PURPLED

GATHERING Saturday Market's Holiday Market, featuring performances by Sharon Rogers, 10:30am; Tom Lemmon, 11:30am; Cigarbox Jerry & Ukulele Adams, 12:30pm; The Rosen Sisters, 1:30pm; Americanistan, 3pm, 10am-4pm, Lane County Fairgrounds. www.holidaymarket.org FREE.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses whether poetry is relevant anymore, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

25 THURSDAY

Sunrise 7:46am; Sunset 4:38pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33
SnarkCast: PRE-NIP

GATHERING Senior Holiday Dinner, 1pm, Eugene Hilton. RSVP by Dec. 19, 682-5318 or 736-4444. \$5.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses the rituals of the season, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

"New Dimensions" presents "An Encounter with the Mystics" with Mirabai Starr, 6:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.

David Gizara hosts "Merry Beatles, A Cool Yule with the Fab Four," 9pm-midnight, KLCC 89.7 FM.

CORVALLIS EVENTS

Note - Continuation dates for out-of-town events are listed under the first day of the event.

THURSDAY, DEC. 18 Miracle on 34th Street, 7:30pm today, tomorrow and Dec. 20, Albany Civic Theater, 111 First Ave. SW. www.albanycivic.org \$8-\$11.

FRIDAY, DEC. 19 Willamette STAGE Co. presents *The Retreat from Moscow*, 8pm today, tomorrow and Dec. 26-27; 2:30pm Dec. 21, Corvallis High School. www.willamettestage.org or 368-7092. \$19, \$16 stu., sr.

Corvallis Community Theater presents *The Importance of Being Earnest*, 7:30pm today, tomorrow and Dec. 26-27; 2:30pm Dec. 21, 27 &

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Friday and Saturday. See
On the Road listings

ON THE road

28, Majestic Theater. www.corvalliscommunitytheatre.org \$10.

SATURDAY, DEC. 20 Corvallis Repertory Singers present "An Evening of Candlelight & Carols," 7pm, First United Methodist Church, Corvallis. \$15. www.repsing.org or 737-4061.

SUNDAY, DEC. 21 Jubilate! Women's Choir of Corvallis, 5:30pm & 7:30pm, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 2945 NW Circle Blvd. FREE.

THURSDAY, DEC. 18 Zoo-lights Festival, 5pm-8pm today through Dec. 28, Oregon Zoo. www.oregonzoo.org

Carolina Liar, The Airborne Toxic Event, 8pm, Crystal Ballroom, PDX. \$15.

A Christmas Carol, 7:30pm Tu-Sa & 2pm Su through Dec. 28, Portland Center Stage. www.pcs.org \$30+.

FRIDAY, DEC. 19 Storm & The Balls present Winter Wonderball, feat. musical guests, comedy, political satire, silent auction, more,

8pm today & tomorrow, Wonder Ballroom, PDX. 21+. \$20.

The Presidents of the U.S.A., Mint Chicks, 8pm, Crystal Ballroom, PDX. \$20.

The Virgins, Hockey, 9pm, Doug Fir Lounge, PDX. 21+. \$10.

The Streamliners, 9pm, The Landmark, Yachats. FREE.

Hanson Family Singers & Jaron & Alyssa Cannon, 7pm, Drain Civic Center, 205 West A St. Two canned food or cash donations.

SATURDAY, DEC. 20 Wine tasting: Oregon sampler, 1pm-4pm, The Wine Place, Yachats. FREE.

The Summit Underground, 9pm, The Landmark, Yachats. FREE.

Heceta Head Lightstation Victorian Christmas, 4pm-7pm today & tomorrow, 92072 Hwy 101, Yachats. \$3 per vehicle.

SUNDAY, DEC. 21 Alan Singley & Pants Machine, Team Evil, Modernstate, 9pm, Doug Fir Lounge, PDX. 21+. \$7.

ATTN: OPPORTUNITIES

Young writers are invited to submit a story or poem to the Young Writers Association writing contest. Theme is "Homelands." Deadline is Feb. 1. www.ywalane.org

McCornack Elementary School 5th grade students will pick up your Christmas tree for a minimum donation of \$6 (\$10 flocked trees) to fund their trip to Washington, D.C. 654-0250. To schedule your pick up, fill out the form at <http://schools.4j.lane.edu/mccornack>

The Eugene Concert Choir will hold auditions on Thursday, Jan. 8, at Emmaus Lutheran Church, 1250 W. 18th. 687-6865.

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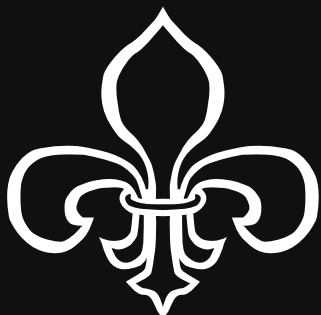
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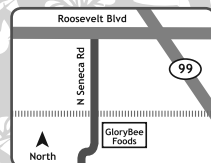
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art in the galleries

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OPENING

Knight Law Center Galleries "Birds for Books," illustrations of birds by Larry McQueen, through July 31. "Solitude & Absolute Form," landscape photography by Jon Christopher Meyers, through Dec. 29. 9am-5pm M-F. Knight Law Center, UO.

CONTINUING

Art of Glass Glass vessels by Janice Van Camp, through Dec. 30. "Nu Nu e," Japanese material pictures by Umama Barma, through Dec. 24. 9am-5:30pm M-F; 9am-4pm Sa. 790 Blair.

The Arts Center "Holiday Gift Show," through Dec. 24. 10am-6pm daily. 700 SW Madison, Corvallis.

Backstreet Gallery Paintings & art books by Jennifer French, through Dec. 30. 11am-5pm W-Sa. 327 Laurel St., Florence.

Benton County Historical Society Philomath Open Studios Tour & Sale, through Dec. 27. 1101 Main St., Philomath.

Blue Moon Jewelry Designs "Texture," metalwork by Tracey Bell, Margarita O'Brien and Renee Ford, through Jan. 1. 115 W. 6th Ave.

BRING Gallery "ReCraft Bazaar" group show, through Jan. 2. 8:30am-5pm M-Sa; 10am-5pm Su. 4446 Franklin Blvd., Glenwood.

Choppers Hair Studio Nature photography by Dawn Laderer, through Dec. 31. 11am-7pm Tu-Sa. 1241 Willamette.

David Joyce Gallery "Oregon's Beautiful Bounty," images of the fall bounty in Oregon, through Jan. 12. 8am-5pm M-F. Center for Meeting & Learning, LLC.

Diablo's Downtown Lounge "Our Other Selves: An exploration into our seldom-visited personalities," photography by Robert Williams, through Dec. 31. 959 Pearl St.

DIVA "Putting Content to Color," tapestries by Linda Rees; "Sheep Scapes," paintings by Vicki Fedricks; "Mortal TRIO," installation by Daniel Heila; "Salvage: Re-visions on a theme of heavy metal," photography by Lorri Goodman; "The View," paintings by Jerry Ross, through Dec. 23. Photography by Michael Northup, through Dec. 27. Noon-5pm Tu-Sa. 110 W. Broadway.

Dr. Don Dexter Stories in Cloth: Quilted Art & Wildlife," work by Phylliss Prom and Sandee Soleim, through Jan. 30. 8am-5pm M-F. 2233 Willamette St., Bldg. B.

Emerald Art Center "Equus," paintings by Sisy Anderson; plus work by Don Burgess, Leigh Avery and Michele Thorp, through Jan. 3. 11am-4pm Tu-Sa. 500 Main Street, Spfd.

Fenario Gallery Mixed-media installations by Mark Lammi, through Jan. 10. Noon-6pm Tu-Sa. 881 Willamette St.

The Hub Work by Aaron Sullivan, through Dec. 31. 298 Blair Blvd.

Imagine Jewelry by Robin Mix, through Dec. 31. 10am-7pm M-Sa; 10am-6pm Su. 296 E. 5th.

Infinity Mercantile Paintings & collage by Marilyn Kent, through Dec. 29. Noon-7pm M-Sa. 296 E. 5th.

Island Park Art Gallery "Muse Art," artists' images of musicians, through Jan. 22. Willamalane Adult Activity Center, Spfd.

Jacobs Gallery "Tiny Treasures: The Miniature Beauty of Art Cards," through Jan. 3. Noon-4pm Tu-F; 11am-3pm Sa. Hult Center.

Jeremy Covert Gallery Paintings by Greta Ashworth; sculpture by Terry Weis; ceramics by Jeff Richards and Ariel Shriner, through Jan. 1. 269 W. 8th.

Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art "NewArt Northwest" student art show, through Feb. 22. "Cuba Avant-Garde: Contemporary Art

from the Farber Collection," through Jan. 4. "Designed by Architects: Metalwork from the Margo Grant Walsh Collection," through Jan. 25. "Iconicity," ongoing installation. 11am-8pm W; 11am-5pm Tu & Th-Su. 1430 Johnson Ln., UO. \$5, \$3 stu. & sr., FREE UO stu., faculty, staff. (2-for-1 Tuesdays.)

Karin Clarke Gallery New work from over 11 artists, through Dec. 24. 10am-5:30pm T-Sa. 760 Willamette St.

Kitsch Drawings and other work by Aaron T. Sullivan, through Dec. 31. 1016 Willamette.

La Follette Gallery "Inherently Sacred," mixed media prints by Jody Dunphy, through Dec. 31. 10am-6pm M-F, 10am-5pm Sa. 931 Oak.

Maude Kerns Art Center "Art for All Seasons" membership show; Club Mud Ceramics show & sale, through Dec. 19. 10am-5:30pm M-F; noon-4pm Sa. 1910 E. 15th. \$3 sug. don.

M.E.C.C.A. Group Art Doll Show, through Dec. 31. 43 W. Broadway.



Horseshoe Bend and other paintings by Don Burgess show at Emerald Art Center through Jan. 3

Museum of Natural & Cultural History

"Rock, Water, Fire, Earth, and Sky: Photographs of the Oregon West by David N. Jones," through March 1. "Walk a Mile in These Shoes: The Stories They Tell" exhibit, through Dec. 21. "Oregon: Where Past is Present" exhibit, ongoing. 11am-5pm W-Su. 1680 E. 15th. \$3, \$2 youths, sr.

Museum of Unfine Art "Manic and Hyper-Realism," work by Jeremy Covert and Shawn Mediast, through Jan. 14. 11am-6pm M-Sa. 537 Willamette.

New Zone Gallery Silk paintings by Merideth Ferrell, through Dec. 31. Noon-6pm Tu-Su. 164 W. Broadway.

Oakway Wine & Deli Landscape paintings by Lynn Ihlen Peterson, through Dec. 25. Oakway Center.

Opus6ix Paintings by Jenny Gray, through Jan. 10. 10am-6pm Tu-Sa. 22 W. 7th.

Sam Bond's "Femme Fertile," paintings by Claire Flint, through Dec. 23. 4pm-1am daily. 407 Blair Blvd.

Savona's "The Pretties," drawings by Christopher Cook, through Jan. 8. 1038 Willamette.

Studio West "Origins," paintings by Edgar Sanchez Cumbas and sculpture by Conrad Williams, through Feb. 2. 11am-6pm Tu-Th & Su; 11am-9pm F & Sa. 245 W. 8th.

Tevina Gallery Work by Jennifer Sells, through Dec. 24. 3pm-5pm W; 3pm-7pm F, and by appt. 228 Main St., Spfd.

Tsunami Books "Free Fall," paintings by Mara Berendt Friedman, through Dec. 31. 2585 Willamette.

Wandering Goat "Family," photo album photos, through Dec. 25. 7am-11pm M-F; 8am-midnight Sa; 8am-9pm Su. 268 Madison.

White Lotus Gallery Work by Jon Jay Cruson, Nonie Fish, Helen Liu, Connie Mueller, Jamie Newton, Walt Padgett, Nancy Pobanz, Satoko, Gary Tepfer and Maurice Van, through Dec. 24. 10am-5:30pm Tu-Sa. 767 Willamette.

WineStyles Work by Rebecca La Mothe, through Dec. 31. 2846 Willamette.

WOW Hall Work by Tommy Waggener, Rob Adams, Travis Weaver, Rachel Grudzen, Calyn Kelly, Kayte McDonald and Kimberly Adams, through Dec. 31. Noon-6pm M-F. WOW Hall, 291 W. 8th.

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movies BY JASON BLAIR

Jamal (Dev Patel) and Prem Kumar (Anil Kapoor) in Slumdog Millionaire

Leash Laws

Danny Boyle's film leaves you breathless, exhausted

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE: Directed by Danny Boyle. Written by Simon Beaufoy, based on the novel Q&A by Vikas Swarup. Cinematography, Anthony Dod Mantle. Music, A.R. Rahman. Starring Dev Patel, Madhur Mittal, Freida Pinto, Anil Kapoor and Irrfan Khan. Fox Searchlight, 2008. R. 120 minutes. ★★☆☆☆

While speaking to Charlie Rose recently, Fareed Zakaria, the editor for *Newsweek International*, said that the Mumbai massacre revealed a fundamental schism of Indian life. “The Indian private sector functions fantastically,” he said, “and the Indian government does not.” Zakaria, a man of astonishing intellect, has a knack for making complex issues appear simple — a quality that Mumbai-based *Slumdog Millionaire* shares, even if its director Danny Boyle does not. It was with Zakaria’s insight in mind that I approached *Slumdog Millionaire*, a film that at this moment is only slightly less hot than the sun. I was under a mistaken impression that as a film about two orphan boys (and the orphan girl one of them loves), *Slumdog Millionaire* might contain some kind of tiny emotional core rooted in the uniquely miserable squalor of Indian poverty. Instead, it turned out to be Disney by way of Dickens, but Dickens at this decibel does not a great film make.

As *Slumdog* opens, Jamal (Dev Patel) is a white-knuckled contestant on the Hindi game show *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire*? Jamal is one question away from the jackpot when the film whip-cuts to him being tortured the night before. A “slumdog,” or street urchin, with no formal education, Jamal undergoes a little shock-and-awe to his nipples when the show goes on hiatus for the night. The rationale is that the torture will expose Jamal’s cheating heart, ending his run from pauper to most unlikely prince. But the *Slumdog* story is a repudiation of reductive, classist thinking — an ironic stance considering that for the next two hours, we’re reductively yanked backward to witness the moments in Jamal’s life that provided him the *Millionaire* answers. While the film does an able job of looping the narratives together, Boyle’s energy, as usual, is borderline aggressive and

pushy. The film has more sprints than the Olympics, for one thing, a fact one might interpret as thrusting, hypnotic authenticity — or stylization pressed to the point of superficiality.

Speaking of verisimilitude, the arc of Jamal’s life bends not towards pain and suffering, as you might expect, but rather a world of fun and travel and only the occasional minor mishap. He and his brother Salim (Azharuddin Mohammed Ismail) bruise but never break while robbing trains, sleeping in dumps, even stealing shoes from the Taj Mahal. But all the while Jamal longs for Latika (played, as an older woman, by the lovely Freida Pinto), the girl he and Salim abandoned when they escaped from an orphan camp. (Don’t ask about their mother. She only exists to be killed while they watch.) Now 18, Jamal tracks down Latika and Salim, both of whom are in service to Mumbai’s most dangerous gangster. After a brief audience with Latika, Jamal hatches a plan to win her back. It involves appearing on a television show. I hope I haven’t given it away.

Screenwriter Simon Beaufoy (*The Full Monty*) encases a riddle at the heart of *Slumdog Millionaire* — what is Jamal doing on the show to begin with? — but it’s so incredibly obvious that the revelation simply thuds. With Dickens, at least, you know the tramp will triumph, but it’s all coal dust and gruel in the getting there, not this phony commercialized lyricism of Boyle’s. In Dickens, street urchins act like street urchins, not kids at Camp Winnepesaukee. These days, there’s nothing you can say that Boyle won’t manage to say louder. Boyle’s a yeller; Spike Lee is a ventriloquist by comparison. Boyle never should have left Scotland, where he set *Shallow Grave* and the unforgettable *Trainspotting*, for more exotic locales like Thailand and India. In *Slumdog*, he finds himself in *Australia* territory, with a similar result: When you try to wrap a child’s tale around a searing social issue, you can end up ruining our sympathy for both. I expected some degree of fantasy, but I also expected to have to think. **EW**

Slumdog Millionaire opens Friday, Dec. 19, at the Bijou.

movie clips

OPENING OR RETURNING:

Bad Santa: Terry Zwigoff directs the story of two con men who dress as Santa and an elf and rob malls after hours. An 8-year-old teaches them the true meaning of Christmas. With Billy Bob Thornton, Bernie Mac and Lauren Graham. R. David Minor Theater.

Beverly Hills Chihuahua: A Taco Bell commercial stretched out to feature length with a paper-thin plot about a rich girl (er, dog, voiced by Drew Barrymore) who needs to get home from scary Mexico? Ugh. PG. Movies 12.

Cadillac Records: Adrien Brody and Beyonce Knowles (playing Etta James) star in this story of Chicago's Chess Records in the '50s and '60s. With Jeffrey Wright, Mos Def and Gabrielle Union. "Rollicking and insightful," said *The New York Times*. R. 109 min. VRC Stadium 15.

Dazed and Confused: Richard Linklater's 1993 comic portrait of high school life circa 1976, with the clothes, cars and music that made this era memorable. Shot in and around Austin, this must-see film was Linklater's (*Slacker*) second big hit. With Parker Posey, Matthew McConaughey, Joey Lauren Adams and Ben Affleck. PG. David Minor Theater.

Haunting of Molly Hartley, The: As her 18th birthday approaches, Molly Hartley (Haley Bennett) has to deal with being the new girl at school – and with nightmares about the time her mother tried to kill her. Is Molly going crazy? Is there something else at stake? PG13. Movies 12.

Kill Bill Vol. 1 & 2: Quentin Tarantino's two films star Uma Thurman as the Bride, a woman with a mission: Kill Bill (David Carradine), her former boss and lover who betrayed her and murdered her family. Some other folks need killing, too. Several of 'em. With Lucy Liu, Daryl Hannah, LaTanya Richardson, Vivica A. Fox, Michael Madsen and Samuel L. Jackson. R. David Minor Theater.

Nights in Rodanthe: Another romance (minus the whole murder angle of *Unfaithful*) starring Richard Gere and Diane Lane, this time as two unhappy people drawn together during a storm. Based on a novel by Nicholas Sparks (*The Notebook*). With Mae Whitman and James Franco. PG13. 97 min. Movies 12.

Saw V: Two detectives butt heads while investigating the continued Jigsaw murders. Hey, didn't that guy die in a previous movie? Guess not. R. 92 min. Movies 12.

Seven Pounds: Will Smith reunites with the director of *The Pursuit of Happyness* for this story about a man with a secret who changes the lives of seven strangers. PG13. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Slumdog Millionaire: The latest from Danny Boyle (*Trainspotting*) is a Mumbai-set fairy tale about life and the pursuit of love and happiness via *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire* (it's not quite as simple as that maybe sounds). *Slumdog* is long on setting and its tangled plot is creative, but it's short on emotional resonance, though its young actors are solid. R. 120 min. Bijou. **See review this issue.**

Tale of Despereaux, The: A tiny, heroic mouse with big ears undertakes a complicated journey in a medieval world. Based on the Newbery Medal-winning book by Kate DiCamillo, and starring the voices of Matthew Broderick, Robbie Coltrane and Dustin Hoffman. G. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Yes Man: Jim Carrey is the man who says "Yes." And he says it to all sorts of things. Frankly, I just want to see this for the moment when he and costar Zooey Deschanel dress up in Harry Potter costumes. PG13. 104 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

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In Triplicate

Local act moves away, gets busy

Please add DoublePlusGood to the storied list of Eugene bands who've moved on to bigger, better things in Portland. Shortly after UO grad Erik Carlson's one-man band landed in the City of Roses, he launched the SoHiTek record label and released an EP by Church (PDX's next big little thing). During all this, he toured and prepped his follow-up to 2007's *Somehow Everyone I Know Is Here*, which *EW* called a "synth-notic, melodic journey through the dreamscape." Carlson wrote new songs last winter that, he says, seemed to be "more dance focused." He joked that he would create a "Dancipation Proclamation," and that soon turned into the title and concept of the new EP (scheduled for a March 2009 release). "We're doing an early winter tour to try and hype things," says Carlson, who recently added two new members to the DPG lineup, fleshing out the band with drums and bass.

This tour will be the first to incorporate new members Pieter Hilton and Grant Hall to fill out DPG's sound. Both Hilton and Hall are Carlson's longtime friends. "It's

a really fun balancing act," Carlson says, "figuring out where my beats and electronic influence kind of have to take a step back, and where their live energy takes the reins." But, as Carlson points out, he wrote *Proclamation* "pre band."

The track off DPG's competent electro-pop album with the most potential is "Get That," a synth-dub ballad that pits Carlson's warm vocals over a tapestry of electronic

pops and squiggles. "Cause when everything streamlines in the way we live / and we finally relax in our space and skin," Carlson sings on the track, "the less the room / the more ways out." Sometimes those digital squiggles are pushed beyond maximum

tolerability. On "Parallel Lines," Carlson warps his voice with a vocal transformer and, unfortunately, sounds like every other auto-tuned entertainer (Akon, Kayne West, Cher). Perhaps DPG could take a hint from electro-dance newcomers Passion Pit and strip things down a bit, toss out half the blips and bleeps and focus in on the gooey pop elements. Carlson describes the trio's sound as "less rigid, more loose," so it'll be interesting to hear what DPG: The Band cooks up. *ew*

DoublePlusGood, Emkaytwo and El Comé Homé

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A Proven Formula

Oregon has long had a thriving underground metal scene, and some of the bands have even gone on to be relatively well-known, like YOB (who, incidentally, have reformed with a new bass player). Perhaps **Proven** will be another Oregon breakout band. The band's first two EPs were produced by Biohazard guitarist and vocalist Billy Graziadei, and the band lists Biohazard as one of their primary influences. Proven is now recording again, in Portland, and if the songs on their MySpace are to attest to their future, the thrashy punk metal edge that Biohazard made famous is their primary drive. Proven got a lot of attention in the press when those first two EPs surfaced, leading some critics to place the future of the hardcore metal genre in their hands. Let's hope their new material propels them back into the spotlight.

The rest of the night's lineup gives Eugene metal fans further proof that the genre thrives here. Eugene hosts metal in all of its many forms, but especially represented on this night is old-school thrashy metal, with fast, heavy breaks and vocalists who sound like they eat gravel. It's music that's a little bit slow, a little bit up-tempo, but always crushing.

Proven, Monday with a Bullet, New World Sinner and Dark Iron Legacy play at 9 pm Friday, Dec. 19, at the WOW Hall. \$8 adv., \$10 door. – *Vanessa Salvia*

Tickling the Ivories

The appeal of Portland's **Break As We Fall** is found in the flourishes they add to their songs. It isn't so much the noteworthy instrumentation or the groovy pop rock tunes they create as it is the tickling of the ivories that skirts across the background of various tracks. And while the funky Maroon 5-ish sounds of tracks like "Solve Yourself" are catchy, it's singer/guitarist Evan Churchill's journeys into the highs and lows of his vocal range that catch your attention. In short, the band is entertaining, but they are most interesting when they do something outside the box, so when Churchill trades his ax for a trumpet on the gorgeous "Static," you might very well stand up and applaud such creativity.

The band released their self-titled debut EP earlier this year and plans to release a full-length in the spring, so they are off to a prolific start. From toe-tapping to head-bobbing and all kinds of gyrations in between, these guys have the chops to play music that will make you do just about anything. This solid band is finding its feet fast, and catching their live show should be a great way to spend a night out.

Break as We Fall and Tyler Fortier play at 7 pm Thursday, Dec. 18, at Cozmic Pizza. \$5. – *Brian Palmer*

Seattle singer-songwriter **Tai Shan** has been snagging good reviews with her soprano voice, emotional lyrics and intricate guitar compositions since she



came on the music scene a few years ago. Now *Tiny Planet*, Shan's first full-length solo album, offers a deeper view of a talented young musician.

Shan's thoughtful and sometimes raw lyrics are in line with the singer-songwriter tradition, but on certain tracks her breathy delivery and drawn-out vowels sound more new-agey than folk. Songs like "Tiny Planet" and "Flicker Like a Flame" evoke Sarah McLachlan at her most reflective.

At times, Shan's songs begin to sound a little too, well, meaningful, with high notes that make the cats prick up their ears. But at other times, her clear voice is the perfect vessel for well-crafted rhythms, melodies and lyrics. On "Let it Go Dear," Shan's voice deftly carries the sweetness, strength and clarity of a song that is fittingly about expressing your own truth. And the song "Crickets in the Dark" will make you want to dance outside on a summer night.

Tai Shan and Jesse Meade play at 10 pm Tuesday, Dec. 23, at Luckey's. 21+. \$2. – *Jessica Hirst*



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THURSDAY DEC. 18

AXE & FIDDLE Larry Barkemeyer presents Singer-Songwriter showcase-7; n/c
THE CITY DJ Redd Fox-10; Top 40, soul, funk, reggae, n/c
COUNTRYSIDE Cheap Truck-9; Rock, n/c
COZMIC PIZZA Break As We Fall-7; Indie-rock, \$5
DAVIS' Brimstone Sounds-11; Hip hop, reggae, n/c
DIABLO'S Andy Andrist-8; Comedy, \$5
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Scottie One & James Green funk/reggae jam-10; n/c
EL VAQUERO Sex & the City/Sopranos trivia night-8; n/c
GOODFELLAS Johnny Wilde Band-9:30; n/c

JOGGER'S DJ Tino-10; Hip hop, R&B, dancehall
JOHN HENRY'S 80s Night w/Chris, Dr. Ake & John-10; n/c
LUCKEY'S Night Flight, Tara Stonecipher-10; Rock, \$3
MAC'S AT THE VET'S CLUB Singalong w/ James Cisler-7:30; n/c
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY The Traitor Hearts, The Whiskey Spots-9; Rock, jug, n/c
OVERTIME TAVERN West Side Blues Jam-8; n/c
PAPA'S SOUL FOOD KITCHEN Eric Richardson-7; Jazz, blues, n/c
ROCK 'N' RODEO Cedryl Ballou & the Zydeco Trendsetters-8; Cajun/Zydeco, \$12.
 DJ Diamond G & Rob Reynolds-11; \$3

SAM BOND'S Dan Jones, Baitball, Heavenly Oceans-9; Rock, \$5
SAMURAI DUCK The KILZ, Pirate Radio, Return of the Fly w/Vincent Price-9
SPIRITS Cheap Truck-9, Classic rock, n/c
TABOO Wetsock, Pistol Whipped Prophets, The Skeevies, Pirate Radio-8; Punk, \$3-\$5
TERRITORIAL WINERY Etoufee-7; Swamp rock, n/c
WANDERING GOAT The Great All Merge-8; Syd Barrett tribute, 21+, n/c

FRIDAY DEC. 19

THE ASTORIA Mystery Band-9; \$5
AXE & FIDDLE Molasses-8:30; Old-time string band, \$3
BEANERY ON 5TH Eagle Park Slim-7
THE CITY DJ Simy-10; Top 40, hip hop, blues, \$2-\$5
COZMIC PIZZA MEDGE presents Raven-8:30; Bellydance, \$5
DAVIS' Latin Fever Holiday Dance-10; \$5
DIABLO'S DJ Supa J-10; \$5
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Dubious, Jaw Nee Now-10; Blues, funk, \$5
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Christie & McCallum-8:30; Honky-tonk, n/c
THE EMBERS Mixed Blood-9; n/c
EUGENE CITY BREWERY Mr. Bill's Trivia Show-8; n/c
HAPPY HOURS The Alliance Party Band-9; Blues, n/c
INDIGO DISTRICT DJ Billy-10; Top 40, hip hop, dance, \$5 (n/c stu.)
JO FEDERIGO'S Ala Nar-9; \$5
JOGGER'S Club Motion w/DJ Ty-9:30; Hip hop, R&B & more
LATITUDE 21 Brimstone Sounds-10; Reggae, dancehall, hip hop, \$3
LAVELLES Gus Russell-5:30; Jazz/blues piano, n/c
THE LOFT AT TURTLES Thierry Renoux-8; Solo piano/singer, n/c

LUCKEY'S Mood Area 52, Sinners Serenade-10; Tango, \$5
MAC'S AT THE VET'S CLUB The Barbarians-9:30; Classic rock, \$4
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Gloria, Black Delany, Return of the Fly w/Vincent Price-9; Punk, glam, n/c
PEABODY'S Dan Henson-9; 70s/80s/90s, n/c
ROCK 'N' RODEO DJ Diamond G & Rob Reynolds-9; \$3
SAM BOND'S Sonny & The Moonlighters, The London Flush-9:30; Rock, \$5
SAMURAI DUCK Vial...Experiment, Still Fire, Atonement-9
SPIRITS Johnny Wilde-9; Classic rock, n/c
SUPREME BEAN Linda Danielson & Janet Naylor-6; Fiddle, Celtic, harp, vocals, n/c
VET'S CLUB BALLROOM DJ Jose Cruz-10; Salsa, \$5
WANDERING GOAT The Tunnel Kings-8; Indie-rock, n/c
WORLD FLAVORS Honky Funk-9; Jam band, n/c
WOW HALL Proven, Monday with a Bullet, New World Sinner, Dark Iron Legacy-9; Hard rock, \$8/\$10

SATURDAY DEC. 20

THE ASTORIA Wanibra, Broken Cell, Hyding Jekyll-9; Alt-metal, \$5
AX BILLY GRILL Carl Woideck Quartet-8; n/c
AXE & FIDDLE Blair Street Mugwumps, Low Tide Drifters-8:30; Old-time, country, \$3
BEANERY ON 5TH Clockwork-7
THE CITY DJ Redd Fox-10; Top 40, hip hop, 80s/90s, \$2-\$5
CLUB SNAFU The Audio Schizophrenic-9; Electro-mash, \$3

COZMIC PIZZA Kudana, Deb Cleveland & The Vipers-7:30; Benefit, \$10-\$20
CRESWELL COFFEE Halie Loren-7; Holiday tunes, \$3
DIABLO'S DJ Supa J-10; \$5
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE The Comedy Workout-8; \$5. L'orchidee d'Hawaii, Water Tower String Band-10; Garage, surf-rock, \$5
THE EMBERS Mixed Blood-9; n/c
HAPPY HOURS The Greg Glass Project-9; Rock, n/c
INDIGO DISTRICT DJ Food Stamp-10; Party hip hop, club, \$2 (n/c stu.)
JO FEDERIGO'S Eagle Park Slim All-Star Blues Band-9; \$5
JOGGER'S Club Motion w/VJ Ty-9:30; Hip hop, R&B & more
LATITUDE 21 Brimstone Sounds-10:30; Hip hop, reggaeton, dancehall, top 40, \$2
LAVELLES Gus Russell-5:30; Jazz/blues piano, n/c
THE LOFT AT TURTLES Tim McLaughlin/Sean Peterson-8; Jazz, funk, n/c
LUCKEY'S DoublePlusGood, Emkaytwo, El Come Home-10; Dance-rock, \$5
MAC'S AT THE VET'S CLUB J.C. Rico & Zulu Dragon-9:30; Rock, blues, \$5
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Taste, Mr. Joy Boy-9; Soul, rock, n/c
PAPA'S SOUL FOOD KITCHEN Brothers of Beat & Papa Soul-9; n/c



KARAOKE

MONDAY
 Black Forest (9)
 Country Side (8)
 Goodfella's (9)
TUESDAY
 Country Side (8)
 Bugsy's (8)
 Country Side (8)
 Diablo's (10)
 Goodfella's (9)

Joggers (9)
 Macho's Pizza (7)
 Mohawk Tavern (8)
 The O Bar (9)
 Taylor's (10)
WEDNESDAY
 The City (9)
 Mohawk Tavern (9)
 Sam's Place (9)

THURSDAY
 Axe & Fiddle (7)
 The Cooler (9:30)
 Driftwood Bar (9)
 Duck Inn (9)
 Earl's Juke Joint (7)
 Happy Hours (8:30)
 Macenzi's Too (8)
 Mohawk Tavern (9)
 Oak St. Speakeasy (9)

O'Donnell's (9)
 The Old Pad (9)
FRIDAY
 Cornerstone Pub (9)
 Eldorado (9)
 The O Bar (9)
 O'Donnell's (9)
 OK Tavern (9)
 Peabody's Pub (9)

Pour House (8)
 Quacker's (9)
 Raven A Pub (9)
 Red Lion Inn (9)
 Sam's Place (8)
 Tom's Tapper (9)

SATURDAY
 A.J.'s Hideaway (9)
 Driftwood Bar (9)

Duck Inn (9)
 Mohawk Tavern (9)
 O'Donnell's (9)
 Peabody's Pub (9)
 Pour House (9)
 Mohawk Tavern (9)
 Raven A Pub (9)
 Red Lion Inn (9)
 Tommy's B&G (9)
 Tom's Tapper (9)

SUNDAY
 Country Side (9)
 Diablo's (9)
 Our Place (8)
 Prime Time (8)
 Rodeo Steakhouse (5)

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PEABODY'S Dan Henson-9; 70s/80s/90s, n/c
QUACKER'S Ty Curtis-9; Blues, rock, \$3
ROCK 'N' RODEO DJ Diamond 6-9; \$3
SAM BOND'S SweetJuice w/Lewi Longmire, Peter Wilde-9:30; Rock, CD release, \$5
SAMURAI DUCK Cold Fire, Sons of Confusion, Placebo Effect, Full Frontal Assault-9
SPIRITS Johnny Wilde-9; Classic rock, n/c
TAYLOR'S DJ Simy-10; Hip hop
WANDERING GOAT 10 Oz. House, Pedo de Tejonito-9; Loop pedal, 21+, n/c
WINESTYLES Elizabeth Cable-7; Singer-songwriter, n/c
WOW HALL Winter Solstice Goddess Celebration-7; Open mic, ritual, \$5-\$13

SUNDAY DEC. 21

COZMIC PIZZA Low Tide Drifters, Wild Hog in the Woods-7; Don.
EL VAQUERO Open Mic hosted by Shady Glenn Willis-7:30
JAZZ STATION All-ages jazz jam-4; Don.
JO FEDERIGO'S Mark Alan-8:30; \$3
JOHN HENRY'S Broadway Revue-10; Burlesque
MAX'S Steve Ibach-8; n/c
MULLIGAN'S Open mic-8:30; n/c
SAM BOND'S Ty Connor's Solstice Pudding Nightmare Festival of Lights, Richard Crandell-8:30; Spoken word, \$5
SAMURAI DUCK Overflow-9; Hip hop
VILLARD ST. PUB Bingo-7; \$1

MONDAY DEC. 22

THE ASTORIA Open Mic-9; n/c
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Bingo-8; n/c
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Jam w/Paul Biondi-7; n/c
SAM BOND'S Bingo-9; n/c
SAMURAI DUCK Cinder Circus-10; Fire dancing, n/c
VILLARD ST. PUB Pub Trivia-8

TUESDAY DEC. 23

AXE & FIDDLE Open Mic-7; n/c
BLACK FOREST Rooster Blues Jam-7:30; n/c
THE CITY DJ Redd Fox-10; Top 40, hip hop, 80s/90s, n/c

DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Open Mic-8; n/c
INDIGO DISTRICT DJ Food Stamp-10; Hip hop, funk, soul, \$2 (n/c stu.)
JAZZ STATION Spirit of Jazz Jam-8; \$5
LUCKEY'S Jesse Meade, Tai Shan-10; Acoustic blues, \$2
MACENZI'S TOO Bingo-7
MAX'S e. geek's Knowledge Knights-7:30; n/c
MCSHANE'S Tricycle Races-9; n/c
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Acoustic showcase-9; n/c
PEABODY'S Patrick & Giri-7:30; Acoustic rock, n/c
SAM BOND'S Bluegrass jam-9; n/c
TABOO DJ Tekneek-10; Zydeco, Cajun, Creole, n/c
WORLD CAFE Open Mic-7
WORLD FLAVORS Open Mic-7

MAX'S Lonesome Randall-7; Rock history, n/c
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY DJ Joshua Lee & Friends-9; DJ dance, n/c
PAPA'S SOUL FOOD KITCHEN Delta Blues Jam-9:30; n/c
QUACKERS Open mic blues jam-8:30, \$2
SAMURAI DUCK The Mid-Rangers-9
TAYLOR'S DJ Simy-10; Jazzy house, hip hop, disco
WORLD FLAVORS DJ Toby-7; Roots reggae

CORVALLIS, ETC

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FR Clockwork-8
SA Acoustic showcase-8

CLOUD 9/DOWNWARD DOG PUB
130 SW 1st
TH The Turntable Enabler-10:30; Hip hop, soul, breaks, n/c

DIXIE CREEK SALOON
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WE Jake Payne & Dixie Creek-7; n/c

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SA Jake Payne & Dixie Creek-8; \$5 don.
MO Open Mic & Jam Night-9; n/c

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Andy Andrist Ruins Christmas Holiday Comedy Night

4th Annual Christmas Sweater Pageant Your Un-conventional X-Mas Party Sex Toy Drive...Egg Nog Chug Live Funk Band and DJ's



Schlocky fare like *A Christmas Carol* and *Miracle on 34th Street* have a way of warming our hearts during one of the darkest, dampest months of the year. Another seasonal serving of the not-quite-as-schlocky *It's A Wonderful Life* couldn't hurt, could it? If once again watching George Bailey jump into the frozen river to save his guardian angel (and thus save himself) will get us through another stressful holiday season, then by all means bring it on. Now in its second year, the Lord Leebrick's "live radio" production immerses the audience in the mechanics of late '40s radio and, more importantly, the milieu of a good yarn.

For those unfamiliar with the James Stewart holiday classic, here's the gist of it: Since his youth, George Bailey's (voiced by Tom Wilson) life has been slipping

out of his hands. George makes plans to travel the world and then go to college. Instead, his father passes away and bequeaths him ownership of the family business, the Bailey Building & Loan Association. George reluctantly steps into his father's shoes, just as he reluctantly steps into a marriage with Mary Hatch (Mary Unruh) that comes with a gaggle of children. It's the American dream, but is it what George dreams of? Later, his uncle misplaces a huge sum of money, an event that threatens to bankrupt the family business and throw George in prison (or so he thinks). George stands on the edge of a bridge, intending to commit suicide, when his guardian angel, Clarence Odbody (Bill Reid), steps in and shows George what life would be like if he'd never been born. The majority of the play is told through flashbacks that take stock of George's life and asks, "Now that wasn't so bad, was it?" For George, who is nowhere close to poverty, life certainly is worth living.

Rest assured, the story will choke you up even if the actors are reading from scripts and changing characters with a shift in their voice. Such is the odd effect of a

radio play. Perhaps this genre's pinnacle was reached in the '40s with John Cage and Kenneth Patchen's *The city wears a slouch hat*, in which a percussion ensemble scores one man's rise and descent into madness. In *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*, the sonic experience is more straightforward. A sound effects engineer (in this case a superb Danny Thomas) stands in the background and recreates the sound of doors slamming shut, footsteps in the snow or bodies falling into a river while five actors (Bary Shaw the standout among a talented group) give voice to more than 15 characters, including the part they play as voice actors in a studio giving a live performance. The result is a thorough immersion in the act of attending a live radio broadcast in the late '40s, complete with applause cues and short breaks for commercials.

Someone in last weekend's audience wondered why the play wasn't being staged at Lord Leebrick's Charnelton Street location. Besides the logistical answers (space was needed for the Leebrick's next production; the Wildish Theater has more seats, etc.), the obvious reason to hold this at the Wildish comes at the end of the play as you walk back to your car. Spilling onto the streets, you realize the classy Bedford Falls is mirrored in downtown Springfield's historic, 1940s-styled downtown. And for just a few hours in December, *Life* will transport you. **EW**

It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play continues through Dec. 21. Tix at 465-1506.

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Announcements

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WRITERS WANTED The Academy for Alternative Journalism, established by papers like this one to promote diversity in the alternative press, seeks talented journalists and students (college seniors and up) for a paid summer writing program at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. The eight-week program (June 21 - Aug. 16, 2009) aims to recruit talented candidates from diverse backgrounds and train them in alt-weekly style feature writing. Ten participants will be chosen and paid \$3,000 plus housing and travel allowances. For information and an application visit <http://altjournalism.org>. You may also email us at altacademy@northwestern.edu. Applications must be postmarked by Feb. 13, 2009. Northwestern University is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

Classes

BALLROOM, LATIN, SWING Beginning Dance Class. 1/19/09 - 3/16/09. 8 weeks, 6-7:15 PM. \$56 per person. Register 342-3058.

Groups

HAVE YOU SOMETIMES WISHED you could spend a holiday sober? Call Alcoholics Anonymous 24 hour Helpline 541-342-4113 or <http://eviaa.org>

Legal Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY NORTHWEST COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION, a state chartered credit union, Plaintiff, v. RICHARD C. GEORGE and APRIL P. GEORGE, Defendants. Case No. 16-08-19849 SUMMONS TO: RICHARD C. GEORGE and APRIL P. GEORGE. IN

THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON: You are hereby required to appear and answer the Complaint filed against you in the above-entitled cause within thirty (30) days from the date of first publication of this summons, and in case of your failure to appear and answer, Plaintiff, for want thereof will apply to the above entitled court for the relief prayed for in its complaint, to wit: FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF: On its First Claim for Relief, for judgment on a claim of breach of contract in favor of Plaintiff and against Defendants in the sum of \$14,118.70, together with the sum of \$347.49, which represents unpaid contractual interest and late charges through and including August 21, 2008, together with interest on the principal sum of \$14,118.70 at the rate of 5.95% per annum from August 22, 2008, until the date of entry of judgment; plus Plaintiff's reasonable attorney fees and costs incurred in this action; and interest on the total of the above amounts at the rate of 9.00% per annum from the date judgment is entered, until paid. SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF: On its Second Claim for Relief, for judgment on a claim of breach of contract in favor of Plaintiff and against Defendants in the sum of \$4,932.88, together with the sum of \$241.57, which represents unpaid contractual interest and late charges through and including August 21, 2008, together with interest on the principal sum of \$4,932.88 at the rate of 8% per annum from August 22, 2008, until notice of entry of judgment; plus Plaintiff's reasonable attorney fees and costs incurred in this action; and interest on the total of the above amounts at the rate of 9.00% per annum from the date judgment is entered, until paid. NOTICE TO DEFENDANT READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY! You must "appear" in this case or the other side will win automatically. To "appear" you must file with the Court a legal paper called a "motion" or "answer." The "motion" or "answer" must be given to the court clerk or administrator within thirty (30) days along with the required filing fee. It must be in proper form and have proof of service on the Plaintiff's attorney or, if the Plaintiff does not have an attorney, proof of service on the Plaintiff. If you have any questions, you should see an attorney immediately. If you need help in finding an attorney, you may call the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service at (503) 684-3763 or toll-free in Oregon at (800) 452-7636. THIS SUMMONS is published by the order of Lane County Circuit Court Judge Gregory G. Foote made on November 24, 2008, direct-

ing publication of this summons once each week for four consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation published in Lane County, Oregon. **THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.** Date of first publication: November 26, 2008. Date of last publication: December 18, 2008. Patrick L. Stevens, OSB 98001, Hutchinson Cox Coons DuPriest Orr & Sherlock, PC, 777 High Street, Suite 200, Eugene, OR 97401. (541) 686-9160

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY PROBATE DEPARTMENT IN the Matter of the Estate of LOUIS D. KNORI, Deceased. Case No. 50-08-25680 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Andrew David Knori has been appointed Personal Representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the Personal Representative at 767 Willamette Street, Suite 302, Eugene OR 97401, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or the lawyer for the Personal Representative, 767 Willamette Street, Suite 302, Eugene OR 97401. Dated and first published on the 11th day of December, 2008. DePAOLIS & SHEPARD By Diane M. DePaolis - OSB #76119 Of Attorneys for Personal Representative. FAX # (541)302-1770. E-MAIL: ddepaolis@continet.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY Probate Department IN the Matter of the Estate of IDELLA JOYCE DELL, Deceased. Case No. 50-08-26661. NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Diana Coburn has been appointed personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative in care of the personal representative's attorney, John F. Kieran, at 975 Oak Street, Suite 625, Eugene, Oregon 97401, within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative or the attorney for the personal representative. Dated and first published December 11, 2008.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Jean Mentzer has been appointed and has qualified as the personal representative of the Estate of Jeffrey Mentzer, deceased, in Lane County Circuit Court Case 50-08-26874. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present their claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below to the personal representative c/o Tami S.P. Beach, 401 East 10th Avenue, Suite 230, Eugene, OR 97401, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative. Date of first publication: December 11, 2008. Jean Mentzer, P.O. Box 252, Cheshire, OR 97419. Tami S.P. Beach, 401 East 10th Avenue, Suite 230, Eugene, OR 97401.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Marsha Bowling has been appointed and has qualified as the personal representative of the Estate of Annis L. Cunningham, deceased, in Lane County Circuit Court Case 50-08-27371. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present their claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below to the personal representative c/o Tami S.P. Beach, 401 East 10th Avenue, Suite 230, Eugene, OR 97401, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative. Date of first publication: December 18, 2008. Marsha Bowling, P.O. Box 421, Veneta, OR 97487. Tami S.P. Beach, 401 East 10th Avenue, Suite 230, Eugene, OR 97401.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Nicole Tarricone has been appointed personal representative of the estate of Rodney Lee Stone, deceased, Lane County Circuit Court case number 50-08-25383. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative in care of Andrew M. Ross, Attorney at Law, 220 E. 11th Ave., Ste. 12B, Eugene, OR 97401, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative. Date of first publication: December 18, 2008.

ney of the personal representative, Andrew M. Ross. Date and first published December 18, 2008.

NOTICE OF INFORMAL PROBATE Of Will And Appointment Of Personal Representative/Mary Belle Mather. Law Office of Emily B. Kile, P.C., 5010 East Shea Blvd., Suite D200, Scottsdale, Arizona 85254, 480-348-1590, KILE #018819, Attorney For Petitioner In The Superior Court Of The State Of Arizona In And For The County Of Maricopa In the Matter of the Estate of Mary Belle Mather, Deceased. NO. PB 2008-051006 Notice Of Informal Probate Of Will And Appointment Of Personal Representative You Are Hereby Notified that: 1. This Notice is being sent to those persons who have, or may have, some interest in the Estate of Decedent. 2. Decedent died on November 17, 2008. 3. Linda Elaine Pollard Atwood filed an Application for Informal Probate of Will and Appointment of Personal Representative in the above-named Court, requesting that the Will of Decedent executed on April 18, 1989 be admitted to informal probate and that Linda Elaine Pollard Atwood be appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Decedent. 4. On November 24, 2008, the Registrar admitted the Will to informal probate and appointed Linda Elaine Pollard Atwood as Personal Representative of the Estate. 5. Bond is not required. 6. A copy of the Will is attached to this notice for you. An heir of Decedent wishing to contest the probate has four (4) months from the receipt of this Notice to commence a formal testacy proceeding. 7. Papers relating to the Estate are on file with the Court and are available for your inspection. Dated: November 21, 2008. Law Office Of Emily B. Kile, P.C. /s/ Emily B. Kile, 5010 East Shea Blvd., Suite D200, Scottsdale, AZ 85254, Attorney for Personal Representative. Date of first publication: December 4, 2008. Date of last publication: December 18, 2008.

TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE The Trustee under the terms of the Trust Deed described herein, at the direction of the Beneficiary, hereby elects to sell the property described in the Trust Deed to satisfy the obligations secured thereby. Pursuant to ORS 86.745, the following information is provided: 1. PARTIES: Grantor: MICHAEL C. DREILING. Trustee: FIRST AMERICAN TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY OF OREGON. Successor Trustee: NANCY K. CARY. Beneficiary: WACHOVIA MORTGAGE, FSB fka WORLD SAVINGS BANK, FSB. 2. DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The real property is

described as follows: LOT 2, BLOCK 13, FOURTH ADDITION TO EDGEWOOD ESTATES, AS PLATTED AND RECORDED IN BOOK 32, PAGE 18, LANE COUNTY OREGON PLAT RECORDS, IN LANE COUNTY, OREGON. 3. RECORDING: The Trust Deed was recorded as follows: Date Recorded: December 2, 2005. Recording No. 2005-095993. Official Records of Lane County, Oregon. 4. DEFAULT: The Grantor or any other person obligated on the Trust Deed and Promissory Note secured thereby is in default and the Beneficiary seeks to foreclose the Trust Deed for failure to pay: Monthly payments in the amount of \$1,153.19 each, due the fifteenth (15th) of each month, for the months of June through September 2008; plus late charges and advances; plus any unpaid real property taxes or liens, plus interest. 5. AMOUNT DUE: The amount due on the Note which is secured by the Trust Deed referred to herein is: Principal balance in the amount of \$178,827.95; plus interest at an adjustable rate pursuant to the terms of the Promissory Note from May 15, 2008; plus late charges of \$239.00; plus advances and foreclosure attorney fees and costs. 6. ELECTION TO SELL: The Trustee hereby elects to sell the property to satisfy the obligations secured by the Trust Deed. A Trustee's Notice of Default and Election to Sell Under Terms of Trust Deed has been recorded in the Official Records of Lane County, Oregon. 7. TIME OF SALE: Date: February 26, 2009. Time: 11:00 a.m. Place: Lane County Courthouse, 125 E. 8th Avenue, Eugene, Oregon. 8. RIGHT TO REINSTATE: Any person named in ORS 86.753 has the right, at any time prior to five days before the Trustee conducts the sale, to have this foreclosure dismissed and the Trust Deed reinstated by payment to the Beneficiary of the entire amount then due, other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred, by curing any other default that is capable of being cured by tendering the performance required under the obligation or Trust Deed and by paying all costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligation and Trust Deed, together with the trustee's and attorney's fees not exceeding the amount provided in ORS 86.753. Any questions regarding this matter should be directed to Lisa Summers, Paralegal, (541) 686-0344 (TS #17368.30222). DATED: October 7, 2008. /s/ Nancy K. Cary, Successor Trustee, Hershner Hunter, LLP, P.O. Box 1475, Eugene, OR 97400. Date of first publication: December 18, 2008. Date of last publication: January 8, 2009.

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Sudoku

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1	2	4	5					
				6	2			1
				8				9
	4							3
	7	5				2	8	
8							7	
9				1				
4			8	2				
					3	9	1	8

Place numbers 1-9 so that each row, column and 3x3 square has each number only once. There is only one solution. Good Luck! Stumped? Visit www.sudokuplace.com for a puzzle solver.

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iASK A MEXICAN!

BY GUSTAVO ARELLANO



Dear Readers: A couple of *columnas* ago, I published a short list of my favorite books regarding Mexicans and Mexican-Americans and urged *ustedes* to submit better choices so that *gaba-chos* can have a Christmas shopping list for their favorite Mexicans, or to understand *nosotros* better. *Muchos* responded, and below is a list of the most-recommended tomes, along with my brief descriptions. But before *empezamos*, let's start with a surprise – the only author or publisher to have recommended their own book. What's wrong with the rest of you wab authors? Humility won't get you anything in the publishing world other than water.

Be sure to add my Aztlán & Viet Nam: Chicano and Chicana Experiences of the Wars so [gabachos] learn that our gente fight in their wars. Also, fiction by Tomás Rivera, (... And the Earth did not Swallow Him), Dagoberto Gilb (the collection called Gritos) and Alejandro Morales (The Brick People).

*Jorge Mariscal
Professor of Literature, University of California, San Diego*

I'll also give space to reader Vanessa Montez:

After reading your response to PROUD TO BE LATINO, I decided to send an email with a list of my favorite CHICANA authors. HOMBRES can read these too. ENJOY :)
Gloria Anzaldua: Borderlands – La Frontera: The New Mestiza
Maria Herrera-Sobek: Reconstructing a Chicano: Hispanic Colonial Literature of the Southwest
Cherrie Moraga: Loving in the War Years – Lo que nunca paso por sus labios

Always has to be a feminist in the *olla* of beans, *¿qué no?* Although with Herrera-Sobek, I'd recommend her excellent treatises on Mexican music, *Northward Bound: The Mexican Immigrant Experience in Ballad and Song* and *The Mexican Corrido: A Feminist Analysis*

Now, onward to the list. Please buy these at your favorite local independent bookstore – and if your backwater 'burb doesn't have one, order online at aztlanbooks.com:

North from Mexico: The Spanish-Speaking People of the U.S., Carey McWilliams: Though first published in 1948 by the legendary former editor of *The Nation* and updated only twice since, this *libro* is nevertheless essential, setting the template for Chicano studies by treating Mexicans with respect instead of maracas.

Pocho, José Antonio Villarreal: Another oldie-but-goodie – published in 1959, but still a lyrical examination of Mexican assimilation into *los Estados Unidos*

Chicana Falsa: And Other Stories of Death, Identity, & Oxnard, Michelle Serros: Assimilation the *chica* way.

The Devil's Highway: A True Story, Luis Alberto Urrea: 2005 Pulitzer Prize non-fiction finalist detailing Mexican immigrants trying to cross the Arizona desert.

The Death of Artemio Cruz, Carlos Fuentes: An obvious choice, but a necessary one, written by one of the titans of Mexican letters.

The Labyrinth of Solitude, Octavio Paz: The intellectual cover for nearly every stereotype Americans have about Mexicans – thanks a lot, Nobel Prize laureate!

Drink Cultura: Chicanismo, José Antonio Burciaga: One of the literary godfathers of the Mexican, this collection of essays never ceases to entertain or inform.

Like Water for Chocolate, Laura Esquivel: For the sex-starved woman in your life!

Charro Claus and the Tejas Kid, Xavier Garza: Seasonal, bilingual and for the kiddies.

Orange County: A Personal History and *iAsk a Mexican!*, Gustavo Arellano: Remember what I said about book publishing and humility?

Ask the Mexican at themexican@askamexican.net or myspace.com/ocwab, or write to him via snail mail at: Gustavo Arellano, P.O. Box 1443, Anaheim, CA 92815-1433!

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Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Hidden Strength"

yes, we can solve this puzzle

Across

- 1 Backside
- 7 Vehicles at stands
- 11 Body art, slangily
- 14 City east of Denver
- 15 Give ___ on the shoulder
- 16 ___ Lilly and Company
- 17 Occupation in a Eugene O'Neill title
- 18 Hold up a group of stores one at a time?
- 20 Claim from a fan of a classic oozy horror movie?
- 22 "Funky Cold Medina" rapper Tone ___
- 23 Have on
- 24 Superhero with the power to produce Japanese noodles?
- 32 Hosp. staffers
- 33 Actress Dushku
- 34 Waldorf, for one
- 36 Did some shoe repair
- 39 Beachside changing facilities
- 43 Yankees captain Jeter
- 45 Make big speeches
- 46 Today, but quicker
- 49 Feature of a Canadian weatherman's display, perhaps?

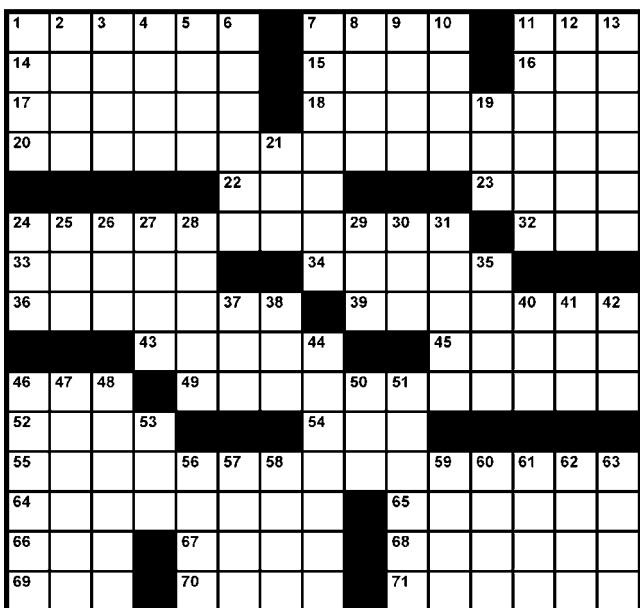
- 52 Change for a five
- 54 Paving material
- 55 Hope/Crosby travel flick that takes place in Mali's capital?
- 64 Coffee additive endorsed by Star Wars bounty hunter Fett?
- 65 Line showing a cold front, maybe
- 66 It ain't nothing
- 67 "___ is only an egg's way of making another egg" (Samuel Butler)
- 68 Doing some bodybuilding refinement
- 69 Presidential monogram of the 1950s
- 70 Nine-digit IDs
- 71 Condescending

Down

- 1 Switch partner?
- 2 "That's gotta hurt!"
- 3 Palm, e.g.
- 4 Memorial monument
- 5 Like some exams
- 6 Shoe designer Blahnik

- 7 Capital near the Caribbean
- 8 Nuclear fission target
- 9 "The Howard Stern Show" crony ___ Booeey
- 10 Like, totally uncool person
- 11 Little sample
- 12 Late rock guitarist Duane
- 13 Bathroom floor workers
- 19 44-down noise
- 21 Kids' show builder
- 24 "___ Favourites" (2005 compilation album from the Tragically Hip)
- 25 Ginger ___
- 26 "___ for Killer" (1994 Sue Grafton novel)
- 27 ___ Center (New Jersey Nets' current arena, named for a menswear company)
- 28 City with a steady history in witch tourism
- 29 Justin Long role, in a computer ad
- 30 Chicken-king link
- 31 Prominent person
- 35 1984-2008 Olympic swimmer Torres
- 37 Elizabethan, for one

- 38 Rec room
- 40 1960s war theater, for short
- 41 ___ standstill
- 42 Mo. for Independence Day in Brazil
- 44 Litter that may not be ready for litter yet
- 46 Worth a B+, perhaps
- 47 Waiting for a party, perhaps
- 48 Toy advertised with the slogan "but they don't fall down"
- 50 ___ Te Ching
- 51 Planetary paths
- 53 Mrs., in Madrid
- 56 Grandmothers, in Germany
- 57 Massage parlor sounds
- 58 Fourth-column selection in Battleship
- 59 "Kurt Cobain: About ___" (documentary)
- 60 Ailment also called "the kissing disease"
- 61 Somewhat
- 62 "Critique of Pure Reason" philosopher Immanuel
- 63 Menage-a-many?



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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

SHY, KIND, OPEN-MINDED
Hi.I am coming to the area soon and my sis has signed me up here to meet a nice guy. I enjoy Eugene and Country Fair...
Greengal, 44, ☎, #102843

NEW TO TOWN

I tend to wander, but am not lost. I have explored the world, but am finding peace here in my new home. Looking for a companion to show me around!
MountainGoat, 27, ☎, #102833

ARTFUL, COMPASSIONATE, ROMANTIC

Im a bright,sincere woman looking for those qualities in men.Hope for sparks in this equation! Love nature, movies, art, and antiques. Enjoy good food, yet balance staying fit.
southernbelle, 52, ☎, #102787

NEW TO EUGENE

I'm a laidback single mother who just moved to eugene about 6 months ago.i'm looking to meet new ppl and maybe find a decent guy different from the rest.
Krystalk11, 22, ☎, #102802

WHAT UP GIRL

Me: Outgoing,student, free spirit. Espresso roma, wow hall, skinner butte, I love the Eug. Need another gorgeous girl to tackle this town with. Must love reggae and Arrested Development. **Breezy, 19, ☎, #102788**

GODDESS SEEKS LOVER

Seeking capable, big, tall lover for sweet but HOT evenings with a REAL woman. I am very sexy and i enjoy hot tubs, being wined and dined, and lingerie. **sexygod-dess, 41, ☎, #102783**

CRAZY DANCING OUTDOORSWOMAN

Honest, caring, and open-minded. My talents include plate juggling, sudoku. **tigerlily, 48, ☎, #102770**



WOMEN SEEKING WOMEN

PSYCHO JAILBAIT FUN

Snow! My Life: Music, books, movies, love, animals, and friends. Me: Active, Imaginative, sweet, witty, petite, slender pierced chick. Wanna cuddle drink coffee and talk OR party! Pot 'n' tequila! **bamboozlee, 18, ☎, #102895**

CUDDLING TEDDY BEAR

Perfect Sunday "Touch and Carress, Make Love, breakfast in bed, shower together, ML, lay on couch, fire, movies, and ML, early dinner, walk the dog/s, & cuddle in bed, ML!" **kozycudler, 44, ☎, #102747**

WITTY LINE HERE

I am a down to earth girl. What do you love to do? I am a Pisces and they say my perfect match is a Cancer, who are "they" really?
annie27, 28, ☎, #102653

SEXY HOT DYKE

hey i am 23 and a taurus i am a hopeless romantic i love making people laugh and going out to movies.smokes pot.hot and sexy, cuddles too. **Tayton1, 23, ☎, #102613**

NO EXPECTATIONS

Open Minded, intelligent & attractive w/ medium build. Love to make people laugh. Looking to meet intriguing & wonderful woman. Let's get to know one another and see what happens....
Itsnotme, 31, ☎, #102546

RED MEAT

tales from the jingle-jangle jungle

from the secret files of Max cannon



MOVING ON

Celebrating my 1/2 century mark. Seeking grounded woman,sense of humor a must. H/W proportionate. Young at heart and very connected to this beloved State. Curious?
time42, 50, ☎, #102398

FULL OF ENERGY

I'm heavily involved in community musical theater. I love to create and learn new things. I love dance and anything else that is active.
Spring127, 19, ☎, #102238



MEN SEEKING WOMEN

WONDER

don rickles/the hulk/one point smarter than you can count-always. **olmec, 39, #102916**

LET'S HANG OUT

Let's go kayak sledding in the snow or go catch some music. Let's do something where we don't have to be quiet! I'm all about the outdoors, food, wine, etc. **Nekko, 37, ☎, #101388**

LOVER OF LIFE

Tall, Dark,and Hung.Left leaning intellectual-Gemini just can't stand the bullshit and headgames. Looking for Good looking, Grounded, Bright, Sexy, Optimistic, Fun Loving, Classy, Woman without major Daddy/Men issues. **Mrhands, 56, ☎, #102910**

GOLD HEARTED BIKERDUDE
young heart, kids part time, great father, great partner, loyal, honest, responsible, sensual, fun, romantic, hard worker, good teeth, strong bones, big hands, touchy-feely, adventurous, intelligent, quite the keeper actually.
Harleyguy, 50, #102908

NEED SOME TAIL!!

30 years old, 5'9" 150 lbs. athletic toned physique. lookin' for a nice girl to turn into a nymphomaniac. i don't care what you look like. **fit4130bmx, 30, #102879**

MOTHA FUCKIN ROCKSTAR

Single and laid back just wanna find someone laid back who wants to hang out and see what happens must love to go out and be easy on the eyes. **chris2620, 25, ☎, #102865**

INSERT WITTY HEADLINE

Will fill you in later. **cecil, 32, #102841**

TRAVELWISE

Its hard trying to describe myself. I chalk most of my life up to experience, and there have been too many to list. **Cagney, 46, ☎, #102854**

WRITER DREAMER HEALER

Energy worker, published author who specializes in spreading happiness and joy through my writing and work. 57 - 230 lbs - 6'1". Seeking happy, smart, sassy, magical, sensual lady. **JoyousGuy, 57, ☎, #102851**



MEN SEEKING MEN

SHY LOCAL TRUCKER

looking for friendship, relationship, companionship - you are patient, have good personality, like walks on beach, sunsets, animals - wanna hang out and see where it goes?
trion45, 45, ☎, #102324

KIND, NOT PUSHOVER

i'm nice, easy to know, i love to write, cuddle but i'm not without my wild werewolf. any info you want ask me yourself alright??? if i like you, I'LL LET YOU KNOW. **blackfeather, 23, #102225**



JUST FRIENDS

DOWNHOME DEVIANT?

im aching for more in life but have more on my plate than i can possibly handle. make sense? didnt think so. welcome to my world. **poopoomanny, 33, ☎, #102903**

ALOHA NUI LOA

Crazy wild and free this is who i strive to be. namaste. **napulelehua, 23, ☎, #102900**

FUN, SILLY, FRIENDLY

New to the area and looking for new friends to hang out with. I love to do things outdoors (hiking, camping, going on road trips) and movies/games. **ktoharista, 25, ☎, #102872**

WARM AND FUZZY

looking for someone sweet,cute,sense of humorand taste forthe absurd . drama queens or persons with drug,alcohol,or mental health issues need apply.If you enjoy travel,dining out and good company,Im the one. **fleetus, 64, #102889**

WACKY BLEACH-BLONDE VEGAN

Me: elementary ed student at LCC, housing co-oper. Enjoy dancing, hoola hooping, bicycles, live music, coloring, whole plant foods, hanging out, new friends (or.?) You: care, like to have fun. **Mojo, 19, ☎, #102850**

WANT FRIENDS

I'm new here and interested in language exchange and sharing thoughts and cultures with you. I want good friends to share wonderful experiences and adventures in a new environment. **dreamer, 31, ☎, #102844**



I SAW YOU

BIGTRUCK, HOTCHIC

You: EWEB utility truck, snowy day, 24th and Polk. You can run cable into my conduit anytime. **When: Monday, December 15, 2008. Where: 24th and Polk. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #900455**

"UNCHAINED LOVE"

... for long as i can remember-sometimes only while drifting through the thrift,past times of mine. Well, he's always with me-so nothing really matters- what if i did! **When: Tuesday, February 14, 2006. Where: once upon a time.... You: Man. Me: Woman. #900453**

?!!AMANDA!!?

?!!!!Where are You!!!!!!? 1st.bus, staring at You!2nd Indras internet, blatantly looking!3rd station/bus ending w/great Smiles.4th St.Vinnies W.I1th. Complete shock at site of You again. Fully inebriated by You. Again!!! **When: Wednesday, November 5, 2008. Where: bus/internet/station/st.vinnies. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900454**

BUIVIEZ UNE BIÈRE

..à la pad vieille. You: Red sweat-shirt, black jacket, glasses wearing cutie. Me: Orange scarf and black jacket, somewhat French-challenged but wishing the conversation would have been longer. Beers sometime? **When: Thursday, December 11, 2008. Where: The Old Pad. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900448**

SHY RED RUBY

80s night, you're dancing with your best friend; Who's that cute guy in the slick leather jacket? Don't be so shy... tell me more about sustainability. **When: Thursday, December 11, 2008. Where: John Henry's. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900446**

BLOOD BANK

Our eyes met several times that night, I'm curious what you were thinking and if you want to meet some time?! love your little yellow bug its a classic!Coffee sometime? **When: Tuesday, December 9, 2008. Where: Memorial Blood Bank. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #900441**

"MORE BESIDES YOU?"

..."A question formed upon stil-lips- passed on but never asked. Two are born to cross their paths, their lives, their hearts. If by chance one turns away are theyforever lost?" **When: Friday, December 12, 2008. Where: in a magnificent illusion. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #900439**

free will astrology

BY ROB BREZSNY

ARIES (March 21-April 19): What I foresee for you in 2009 is an upgrade in your approach to creating and maintaining your alliances. I envision you having dramatically enhanced intuition about how to connect with people in satisfying and interesting ways. I picture you being able to push beyond your habit-bound ways of conducting your relationships, ensuring that you'll be entertained and moved by them more than ever before. If I could give you a symbolic holiday gift to inspire you in this work, it might be a long, thick golden thread interwoven with a long, thick silver thread. Happy Holy Daze, Aries!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Happy Holy Daze, Taurus! If I were going to give you a holiday gift, it might be a ticket to go visit your imaginary friend – you know, the invisible ally you've been neglecting ... the sweet, fierce companion who lives in the threshold between the light and dark ... the "other you" who abides there patiently on the cusp between waking and dreaming, hoping that someday you will fully embrace your relationship. Don't worry, your imaginary friend isn't demanding or possessive in the least, but mostly just wants you to think of your link every now and then so that you might feel less alone.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): One of your most fun assignments in 2009 will be not only to think way outside of the box but also to think way outside of the bigger and more interesting (but nonetheless boxy) boxes that all the outside-the-box thinkers customarily think inside. That's why, if I could give you a Christmas, Hanukkah, Solstice, and Kwanza gift, it would be a nice, clean, square, white box punched full of big holes with ragged edges where the inside has burst into the outside. Happy Holy Daze, Gemini!

CANCER (June 21-July 22): In the Broadway play *Passing Strange*, the narrator Stew says, "You know how one morning you wake up as an adult and you realize your entire life is based on a decision you made as a teenager?" If that description applies to you, Cancerian, 2009 will be the best year ever to do something about it. In the coming months, you will have the power to correct errors or misjudgments you made way back when. You'll be able to figure out how to start over in an area of your life that you've always assumed you were doomed to accept just the way it is. You may even find that you can, in a sense, change the past and reconfigure your memories.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Happy Holy Daze, Leo! If I could give you one gift for the holidays, it might be a magic object to add to your love altar – something like a pomegranate resting on red velvet, or a golden heart-shaped magnet, or Pablo Neruda's book *100 Love Sonnets*. What? You don't have a love altar? Well then please begin creating one as soon as possible, and continue building it throughout 2009. For the next 12 months, the time will be right to get smarter, wilder, and kinder in your approach to creating intimate connection.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): "My deepest emotional wound has also been the source of inexhaustible blessings." I'm not going to tell you why that statement is true for me – it's way too personal – but I assure you that it's one of the fundamental facts about my destiny. Could you make a similar assertion, Virgo? Is it possible to interpret your life in such a way that you could see how a painful experience you suffered in the past has also given you tremendous insight, inspiration, and vitality? Two thousand nine will be an excellent year to make that leap of understanding. And the time around the solstice – right now! – is a perfect moment to get started.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): At Salon.com's forum "Table Talk," participants were urged to come up with a six-word sentence that captured the essence of their lives. One person wrote, "Broke. Payday. Broke. Payday. Broke. Payday." Another said, "Oh, no, not again. Again." But the testimony I really wanted to call your attention to is this: "I never learned how to swashbuckle." Why is this pertinent for you? Because I believe that if you have a similar regret – that you've never mastered the art of swashbuckling – you will have an excellent chance to fix that problem in the coming months. In fact, I'm tempted to name 2009 as the Year of the Swashbuckle for you Libras. If I could give you a symbolic holiday gift to get you started, it might be a superhero's costume created by a top fashion designer. Happy Holy Daze!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Happy Holy Daze, Scorpio! If I could give you one symbolic gift to set the right tone for 2009, it might be a clear glass vase with a potato growing partially submerged in water, allowing you to see its gnarly roots. I'd hope that would inspire you to put diligent yet playful effort into getting reacquainted with and exploring your own personal source code – you know, the master plan of your life that you formulated before you were born. The coming months will be an excellent time to cultivate a wise innocence as you get to the bottom of who you really are.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Let's say that on Christmas Eve, Santa Claus hopes to deliver toys to every child who believes in him. Thanks to the fact that his distribution area stretches over many time zones, he'll have at least 24 hours to accomplish this feat. Still, that means he's got to visit approximately a thousand homes per second. I don't know what astrological sign Santa is, but if he's a Sagittarius he'll have the highest possible chance at success. Beginning any day now, and lasting throughout 2009, your tribe will have the potential to move faster, think quicker, and multi-task better than every other tribe. If I were going to give you a symbolic holiday gift, it would be greased lightning. Happy Holy Daze!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Four out of every five people testify that if such a thing were possible, they would buy more time.

If you're one of those four, I'm here to tell you that conditions in the coming months will provide some interesting opportunities. While you may not be able to actually purchase more of that precious commodity, it's quite possible that you'll be able to legally steal it, barter for it, and even create it from scratch. I've got to be cryptic here, because the promise I'm hinting at is of course not true in a strictly literal sense: You'll have to tweak your imagination and think a bit sideways and upside-down in order to cash in on the temporal expansions that will be available.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): When she applied for admission to New York University as an undergraduate, Rehka Malhotra was rejected. Years later, after she'd become a well-known Brooklyn DJ, that same school invited her to teach a class, "Pop Culture: South Asians in the U.S." "It was the sweetest revenge," she told *Good magazine*. I predict a comparable development for you in the coming year, Aquarius. You will find power in a place where you were formerly weak, or you will achieve success in a situation that once shut you out.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Happy Holy Daze, Pisces! My gift to you is advice about the coming year. First, read this quote from W.H. Auden's book *The Dyer's Hand*. "A daydream is a meal at which images are eaten. Some of us are gourmets, some gourmands, and a good many take their images precooked out of a can and swallow them down whole, absent-mindedly and with little relish." With this as your touchstone, I urge you to be a gourmet in your approach to daydreaming during 2009. It will be time for you to make your fantasy life into an art form instead of a chaotic, unconscious diversion. If you put more intention into your generation of mental images, you will find yourself better able to create what you really want.

HOMEWORK: What's the one feeling you want to feel more than any other in 2009? Go to RealAstrology.com; click on "Email Rob."

Go to **RealAstrology.com**
to check out Rob Brezsnys
EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES
and **DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES.**

The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at
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Ads with a ☼ have Voice Mail Messages call 1-520-547-3020
(Charges may apply)



WOMEN SEEKING MEN

WORKMEOUT

What is a Queen Baby? It isn't a female dom. Queen Baby is a submissive who is not only disciplined by her Daddy, but pampered and worshipped by him too. **QueenBaby, 30, #102493**

CURIOUS KINKY
HARRISBURGER

Always looking to try new things and experiment. I'm usually the dominant partner, but I enjoy being the submissive one sometimes. **Blegler66, 19, #102342**

FUN&LOVE IN ONE

I'm hyper, sweet, and passionate. I'm looking for someone who can be with me for me. I'm about to finish High School but for the record, I'm young, not stupid. **unblessedXheart, 18, #102204**

SEX DEPRIVED WOMAN

I don't know a whole lot about being kinky (gives a guy a chance to teach me) Not necessarily looking for anything long term, just some fun for now. **sexyblonde, 21, #101640**



WOMEN SEEKING WOMEN

HOT MAMA

Seeking a woman who is interested in getting to know one another, then see what happens, if we play or not. **justbudding, 52, #102824**

LETS HAVE FUN

Im lookin' for a lover who wont blow my cover... She's so hard to find. So take it easy. Don't let the sound of your own wheels drive you crazy. **peaceface, 20, #102754**

LOOKING FOR..

Looking for fun first but maybe more. Just casual now, but not against more. I am very laid back.... **JRC, 25, #102408**

SEXY LITTLE VIXEN

SWF: Bi-sexual, 40, attractive, blonde/blue, 105 lbs. I love foreplay & pleasure and am looking for a female to play with. "NSA", 1-on-1 or possible 3-some with my man. **littlevixen, 47, #102363**



WOMEN SEEKING ...

PASSIONATE PLEASURE

I want a sexually attractive female or male preferably with tattoos, piercings or body mods, clean, that just gets the urge to fuck beautiful people ... **fun, 19, #102528**

LICK ME

I'm looking for a woman (some couples ok) who is into hours of oral pleasures. I'm new but am wet and willing... let's see if we're a match. **naughtymommy, 28, #102330**

BORED AND HORNY

Would like to have some fun without judgment. **WitchBaby, 21, #101941**

SEXY GIRLIE GIRL

with preference for transmen, also into butches and men seeking honest, kind, passionate person with intact sense of humor to date, play with, FWB's. Want stimulating conversation and fantastic chemistry I offer what I seek. **trannylover, 32, #101377**



MEN SEEKING WOMEN

P.H.D. FEMALE ORGASM!!!

Hello ladies, Just out of long relationship and ready to play alltime. If you want a man that will never dissappoint. Look no further. I pride my self in pleasing. **Conan15, 32, #102912**

UNFORGETTABLE

Looking for that person that is just right... Where you just fit no change required... That's what I want. **thomas2gilllett2003, 30, #102899**

TIME IS ENOUGH

timely manners, timely matters. **lnca, 39, #102883**

FRESH AND READY

I am young and adventurous, looking for somebody to have a good of time with. Creative type with amazing talents. Looking to have fun! **rain1810, 21, #102878**

JUST WANT SEX

just want to get off, maybe have a few nights of meeting. just hard sex. **rusty, 24, #102860**

FOR YOUR PLEASURE

30 words only??? that sucks!! im a guy... we can get off easily, thats why my fetish and/or intrests are solely on giving women the most incredible, multiple, ejaculateing orgasms. **godsgift2u, 29, #102863**



MEN SEEKING MEN

BONDAGE TOP

Bondage Top, 36, seeks other men 21-40 who want to be tied up. This is all about domination an role-playing, not sex. You'll have a fun and suspenseful night! **TopMan, 36, #102539**

LOOKING FOR DADDY

Looking for an experienced older man to show me how to be a good, submissive boy toy for him and his friends. I'm yours for the taking. **rustboy62, 24, #102477**

LEARNING LIMITS, SIR

want to realize my fantasies... slim, submissive, obedient, and seeking a patient, experienced master who will train me and teach me what i am to do.... **can-cerian, 38, #102375**

IT'S ALL GOOD!

I'm a "daddy" who loves doing/watching sex. I like gentle, slow buildup to a happy ending for both of us, or the three or four of us. **Eugene_Guy, 60, #102336**

KINKY COLLEGE BOY

SWM, looking for play partner. Ready to explore and up for almost anything. Love role play, toys, phone fantasy... Let me know if you're interested...can we fulfill each other's fantasies? **salsaboy22, 22, #102321**



MEN SEEKING ...

SOLIDLY SEXY

Looking for a hot woman, or two women, or a couple m/w, who want discreet, occasional nsa play with a clean and fit man. be sane yet wild and kinky. **hotrick4u, 25, #102907**

LUSTFULL PLEASURES

i am looking for people to have some fun with and explore our sexuality...new to the game but lots to bring to the table. must be discreet and open minded. **nitsu, 33, #102779**

I'M ALL YOURS

looking for hot sensual discreet encounter bi white male. **viking11, 42, #102743**

MID-LIFE NEEDS

SM seeks bi-or gay male or bi-M/F couple for mutual satisfaction. Well endowed, a turn-on. If M/F, woman should partipate. Am attractive, disease-free and spontaneous. You be. Try this on! **Friendly, 65, #102449**

WANNA PLAY ?

Looking to be submissive for discreet, well hung partner, or partners, for occasional get togethers. **thirstyone, 53, #102287**

HMM VERY CURIOUS

just lookin around. new to idea, curious about lots of things, open to suggestions...got any? **jcoopa, 23, #101907**



COUPLES SEEKING ...

SEXYPAIR SEEKING
SEXGODDESS

Sexy, fun, curious, clean couple looking to invite a hot female into the bedroom for mutual pleasure. Never been with a woman before, but thinking about it gets me hot. **CuriousSexKitten, 24, #102915**

BLONDEKARABLONDE

im a quiet and very private women with the need of a deep friendship with alot more wink wink, drop me a line ,its all good. **oo7blonde, 39, #102896**

PRETTY COUPLE SEARCHING

We're beautiful, clean and responsible; experimental and naughty; lusty and loving; pervy, devious and sweet, and we're looking for someone to play with. **prettypeople, 34, #102892**

PLAYFUL COUPLE LOOKING

younger sexy playful couple looking for a third to join and explore our sexual fantasies and pleasure each other. **outgoing101, 22, #102862**

"FIRST TIME"

I'm 24 always into being with another women. But it never came by. So now I'm looking for a women to show me what I've been missing. **JCSNieveKitty, 24, #102849**

HOT COUPLE LOOKING

We are looking for a couple or single woman to play with and more.Lets start with flirty emails & pics, then go from there. **sexy-couple2, 46, #102496**

Savage Love

WORDS OF PURE WISDOM by Dan Savage



Okay, I need a kick in the face or something.

My boyfriend of two years and I broke up a little more than a week ago. He cheated. But there's a bit more to the story: He was a raging alcoholic, and I've broken up with him a few times. One of those times – when he was at our place and supposed to be packing his things and be gone by morning – I kind of rebounded off of some guy, had sex with him, then came home later the next day and found out that my boyfriend was still at my place. We talked and got back together. Later on, he found out about the rebound sex I had, and I think that's why he cheated. We weren't a healthy couple, all in all.

We both want to remain friends, so a week after the breakup, we went out for coffee. We both realized that the feelings we have for each other haven't gone away. There's no chance in hell I'm getting back with him after he cheated, but I can't resist this urge to have sex with him. And I know the feeling is mutual. So now I'm torn on whether to start a sex-based "relationship" with him or just block him from my life.

Cheated On One

If you've ruled out getting back together with this guy because he's a raging alcoholic, COO, that's fine. If you're not getting back together with him because this relationship generates way too much conflict and drama, COO, that's also fine. But if you're not getting back together with this guy – a guy who you have strong feelings for – because he cheated on you, well, that's just retarded.

Yeah, yeah: You didn't cheat. Not technically. You were officially "off again" when you had rapid rebound sex with someone else, and you were "on again" when he had sex with someone else. But ... come on. You fucked someone else during a particularly rough patch and kept that info from him when you decided to get back together. He found out you fucked someone else and went and fucked someone else himself. Now, you can choose to view his cheating as a violation of trust and an unforgivable betrayal and wocka wocka wocka, COO, or you can choose to view it as part of your most recent rough patch and round his cheating down to rebound sex, even if he was rebounding after you were officially back together, and get back together with him.

If that's what you want. And you know what? It sounds like that's what you want.

My girlfriend of seven years has disgusting manners. She eats loudly with her mouth open, farts and belches incessantly, snorts instead of blows her nose, and so on.

I used to find it refreshing to be with a girl who was so uninhibited. But now it is getting on my nerves, and it's embarrassing when she farts in front of our friends. I am starting to be turned off by this, and I don't see her as desirable anymore. She thinks I am being sexist and have a double standard.

Tell me PLEASE: Am I intolerant? And is there something wrong with me that I'm losing my libido?

Grossed Out

Yes, there's something wrong with you – there's something wrong with anyone who could spend seven years with this woman. Seven minutes sounds intolerable.

I wouldn't tolerate a dude who behaved the way your girlfriend does – or advise a woman to tolerate one – so there's no sexist double standard on my end. And so long as you're not ripping farts in front of her friends or chewing with your mouth open, there's no double standard on your end either, GO. Fact is, your girlfriend is a pig and a slob, and she'd be a pig and a slob even if she had a cock and balls.

There's a guy out there for her somewhere – a guy with similar habits, or a guy with a higher tolerance for loudly chewed food, or a guy with a fetish for girl farts – and the sooner you DTMFA, the sooner she can start delighting him with her uninhibited ways.

My partner and I have a great thing going – madly in love, together a year, a great sex life, similar hobbies/interests/etc. Basically, we're both on the same page in thinking, "This is it!" We've both been very open and honest about everything, including our relationship histories, but yesterday something caught me completely off guard. In the course of a dinner conversation that led to talk about old partners, I asked how many she'd had, thinking her number was a few more than mine (10, unless I'm forgetting someone). She sheepishly answered, "100." One-zero-zero!

She lived in NYC for a couple years, and maybe that's how people do it there. But I'm a good-hearted, Southern, serial-monogamist boy and this makes me feel, well, odd. I'm really not sure how I feel about this, but I am definitely feeling something. I have zero fear of her cheating on me, and she's way into our sex life, but I'm not sure what to make of this. Thoughts?

Way Tons Fewer

Your girlfriend had a lot of guys, so your girlfriend knows good guys from bad, and good sex from bad, and she could get another guy, a different one, whenever she wanted. And yet she's with you, WTF, and she's faithful to you. Which can only mean one thing: You must be pretty awesome. Your girlfriend could have any dude she wants – she's had almost every dude she's wanted – and yet she chooses to be with you.

You know what you should make of this? It's a compliment, WTF, and you should take it as one.

Long story short: I'm a 28-year-old Aussie gay guy, very recently dumped. His choice, not mine. But the reason he gave for breaking up was the way we met. He believes that for a relationship to truly work, it's important to be friends first. As a single gay guy, I've tended meet guys at parties and clubs, and I always figured that you start with sexual chemistry and develop a friendship from there. Am I being shallow?

Suddenly In The Scene

Okay, SITS, your ex said it didn't work out because you weren't friends first. But what your ex meant, SITS, was that it didn't work out because once he got to know you ... he didn't like you.

Sorry if that's harsh, but there it is. No one dumps a man who he truly loves – or even likes well enough that love is still a possibility – on a bullshit technicality like that. ("I'm just crazy about you, but we met on a Tuesday and I've always felt that it's important to meet someone on a Thursday, so ...") You had good sexual chemistry at the start, it seems, and you developed stronger feelings for him as things progressed. But the more he got to know you, the less attracted to you he was.

It's possible that your ex has concluded that the next person he dates has to be "friends first" because you weren't friends first and it didn't work out. God only knows what he'll decide to do if his next relationship – one with a guy who was "friends first" – doesn't work out. Enemies first, perhaps?

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